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U S D A



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The United Nations Must Pool Their Food

SECRETARY WICKARD says: "We have got to give it to them regardless of what work it takes to grow it."

To Workers in the USDA:

The one good thing about Pearl Harbor is that it aroused us. It united us as we have never been united.

We are in no greater danger than we were before Pearl Harbor. The forces seeking to engulf us and destroy us are no stronger than before. Our enemies are no more ruthless than they were before. Their intentions are no more evil or selfish.

The great difference is that America is awake, thanks to Pearl Harbor. I doubt if anything less would have awakened us. I also doubt if we yet are fully awake.

We had been told on many occasions over a long time to expect a Pearl Harbor and to prepare for it. The one man in this country who has had more experience than any one else in international affairs has been pointing out our danger for years. Those of us who believed what the President said somehow didn't have the vision or the courage to take action to meet the danger.

We Have Been Self-Righteous

We in the Department of Agriculture have had a sort of self-righteous attitude. We thought we did something far-seeing over a year ago when we asked for increased production of hogs. We were rather proud of virtually jumping the gun on lend-lease appropriations last spring. We thought the April 3, 1941, announcement about the need for more milk products, eggs, pork, lard, and tomatoes, and price supports to encourage production demonstrated our foresight. We felt that we rose to the heights when we put out the 1942 goals in September. That plan to produce for the full needs of the Nation was the crowning achievement of all. The response to the September appeals was wonderful. But too many of us thought the job done, or as good as done. True, agriculture had been better prepared than other industries at the start and the moves of 1941

strengthened the agricultural defense line, but we in agriculture were inclined to boast and relax. Oh, yes, we had really done the job. Why hadn't others done as well?

It is that sort of an attitude—that we clung to right up to December 7—that makes me wonder if we are fully awake. It occurs to me that we may be awake all right but still indulging in a little pleasant daytime dreaming.

The first thing we must realize is that we no longer are living in the Land of Plenty. We have got to produce all we can and waste nothing.

Wishful Thinking the Worst Waste

In the past, we have been the most wasteful people the world has ever known. We have been growing more wasteful all the time. We were inventing newer and better wastes every year. But our most wasteful practice of all has been wishful thinking. When we get right down to it that is why we didn't do very much about the President's warnings. We knew we were in some danger but we hoped that our two friendly oceans would protect us. We said, "After all, this isn't our quarrel." We said, "Well, we can produce more and faster than anybody else. We will do it if we have to, but don't bother us until we really are in danger. Even then we can produce enough to provide for our defense and our usual consuming habits at the same time. Maybe we can make some money while it is going on."

I am afraid we are still indulging in wishful thinking—in day dreaming. Oh, yes; we are pinching ourselves to stay awake all right. But are we fully awake?

I wonder if we in agriculture have really awakened to the fact that we must pool our resources, our fighting strength, our food with those fighting with us. I wonder if we have stopped to think that we hope that more and more nations and more and more people will join us. Do we know what it means

to pool our food? Why, that means to share our food. There is something to think about. Those who are fighting with us need our food for their strength to fight a common cause. Those we hope will join us in the future very probably will be very hungry people. They will have to have more food—from us—to make their strongest fight. We have got to give it to them regardless of what hard work it takes to grow it or what sacrifice we must make in order to share it.

Bridge of Ships Will Be Wider

If it were not for the lack of ships, we already would have been called upon for a lot more food and agricultural supplies than we have furnished. We must keep open the ship bridge across the Atlantic. We are going to keep it open. We are ahead in one production field—ship building—and the ships are going down the ways faster and faster. Thank the President for that. The bridge of ships will be made wider and wider. As it gets wider it can carry more food, and that means we may not only have to send more food for nations now getting agricultural supplies elsewhere; eventually, it means we are going to be able to feed more and more allies on the continent of Europe.

My imagination won't permit me to even estimate the potential future demand for American farm products. It just passes comprehension. But we can be thankful that we have organized farm programs to enable us to do the greatest job ever undertaken by the Nation's farmers. Without those programs the task would be all but impossible. It is up to all of us to use those programs rapidly and efficiently. Our collective effort exerted through these collective programs can do the job.

It's our job to prepare now to meet that demand; to do everything in our power to meet it right now. We can't procrastinate in agriculture. I wish every citizen understood that as well as the farmers. As I have said so often,

"There is only one time to plant and if you are too late for that time you have lost a year's production and lost it forever. There is no way to make it up."

Utmost May Be Little Enough

So we must produce all we possibly can manage to produce this year of the things that are needed. The utmost we can turn out may prove to be little enough, when the bridge of ships is widened. If we don't have enough when that time comes to supply ourselves at the normal rate and also meet the minimum needs of our allies, what will we do? Why, of course we will ration ourselves and share up the total food supply of the United Nations. If there is any way to get part of our supply to them, we will not eat on a luxury level while the people of our associates are starving.

Yes, we are quite likely to have to talk in terms that I hate—in terms of rationing—about American food consumption in some lines. We will do it proudly and gladly when we know that we have produced to our utmost, and still there is necessity to share up on some items in order to win the war. Sacrifice of luxurious food habits will be a privilege if it helps bring victory.

Difficulties Grow Like Weeds

Agriculture's potential demands are great. Its potential difficulties in production are just as great. I can tell you now that these difficulties are going to grow and multiply faster than weeds in wet weather and they are going to be harder to eliminate than quackgrass.

Every day the labor problem, the fertilizer problem, the rubber problem, the transportation problem, the machinery problem look infinitely worse. We are going to run into bottlenecks on every one of these. Take farm machinery, for instance. Somebody says, "Have the Department get us a priority." Well, the competition on priority is getting stiff and will become stiffer. Do you think I have any hope of getting somebody to stop building planes or guns or tanks or synthetic-rubber plants in order to give us some machinery we can manage to get along without in some way? Don't get the idea the USDA can or will try to do more than present our requests for agricultural supplies so that they will be considered in the light of their relative importance. For instance, is gunpowder more essential than fertilizer when you divide the nitrates? And, believe me, we think fertilizers are very important. But still we think gunpowder is almighty important.

After we have presented our requests for farm supplies and received all that is coming to us, we people in the Government agricultural services are going to have to help the farmers improvise in every possible way to meet these goals. That means technical assistance. It means advice. But it means, first of all, your assistance in bringing to the farmers the necessity of getting the job done despite the handicaps.

Can we meet the requirements laid down by the strategy of the United Nations, under these difficulties? I don't know. It's small comfort for me to know that no one knows. Ignorance is not bliss in this case. How can we best meet the wartime farm-product requirements? The answer depends on how much we can and will deny ourselves. Yes; we must be prepared for rationing on supplies for farm production side and on the consumption of farm products. What, when, how much, and how long I don't know, for I can't exactly forecast future events. We didn't know where the Japs were going to attack until bombs started falling out of the sky. We will have a little more warning as to the coming on of new wartime needs for American food, but you can't figure it all out now.

Answer Depends on Self-Denial

The important thing is to be prepared in spirit for the sacrifices that lie ahead. There are going to be plenty. Your job, my job, is to tell the farmers just the facts straight from the shoulder; facts—whether they are pleasant or not—and for a long while there are going to be a lot more unpleasant facts than pleasant facts.

It's going to be pretty hard to turn from wasteful habits to frugal habits, requiring complete sacrifice of all the luxuries and many of the things heretofore regarded as essential. But I know that when the farmers of America become aroused they will carry on their production in spite of shortages, and they will make every sacrifice necessary to win through.

I only have in mind one sacrifice that we would hesitate about. There is one sacrifice we don't want anyone to have to make. That is the sacrifice that some young man in the armed forces may have to make because you or I didn't do our part in this production job. Or because you and I fail to deny ourselves of something that is needed more in some other industry or some other place to make a greater contribution to victory. We can't be forgiven for such neglect now that we are awake and face to face with realities of war.

One other thing we can't neglect. That is health and education of the children of America. You know it seems at times we adults have been pretty greedy, wasteful, selfish, and unresponsive. We are going to have to do a lot to get out of the difficulty we allowed ourselves to drift into by our lethargy. But you can't blame the youngsters of the Nation. So we have to protect them in their daily lives, and we must make the sacrifice so they will have a decent world in which to live. We want them to have healthy bodies and well-trained minds. We want them to live in an America of the future which will be free from the selfishness and greed, from shortsightedness and luxury-worshipping of this generation. We want them to live in an America where freedom, security, health, and happiness are the heritage of all its citizens.

CLAUDE R. WICKARD,
Secretary of Agriculture.

NEW FARM GOALS FOR VICTORY

The chief war job of the United States Department of Agriculture is to help farmers produce enough to keep the United Nations' food store adequately supplied.

Ten days after President Roosevelt told the world our vast new production goals for planes, tanks, guns, and ships, Secretary Wickard announced new goals for 1942 farm production, likewise revised upwards after Pearl Harbor. He called on farmers to put every acre of land, every hour of labor, and every bit of farm machinery, fertilizer, and other supplies to the use that would best serve the Nation's wartime needs. He specified Government price-support levels, so that farmers might proceed to produce with confidence.

These Are Our Goals, Too

The farm goals become goals for each member of the United States Department of Agriculture. True, not a bushel of corn, or a pound of pork, or a quart of milk will be produced in a USDA office or laboratory. The supply of food and fiber for waging this war will come from 6 million farms. The job of the 80,000 in the offices and laboratories is first of all to help the 6 million farm families fortify the Nation with adequate farm production.

In announcing the goals, Secretary Wickard made help to farmers in reaching them the first order of business for the Department.

Many lines of work carried by the Department, though not in the direct line of production assistance, gear in with the production job. Some employees are at work on helping the operators of transportation systems, and storage facilities and processing plants do their part of the war job of food supply. Some are helping homemakers put the food supply to use in building health and strength in all the families of the Nation. Some are helping lumber operators provide the timber supply required for war with as little damage as possible to the Nation's forest assets.

Keep Production Rolling

But the basic thing in the whole agricultural scheme is keeping the farm production rolling—piling a 1942 high production record for all time on top of the record production of 1941, as that was piled on top of a record production in 1940.

The size of the production job facing farmers is indicated by the fact that there are only two items of farm production where 1942 output is not expected to be increased over 1941. Wheat acreage is down. Hay production remains the same. All other products are to be increased. The increases are modest in some lines; Gargantuan in others. (See table, p. 8.)

Not only the production goals, but the obstacles in the way of reaching them, are bigger now. Shortages of farm labor, machinery, and production supplies will become more serious. Therefore Secretary Wickard warned, "For wheat, cotton, and tobacco the goals should not be exceeded. To do so would waste precious labor and supplies. For the other commodities, if farmers are able to exceed the goals and processors can handle the products, the Nation's interests would be served." Farmers must produce to the limit in 1942 the things where shortages may occur, because if the war is a long one, it will become progressively harder to get production.

Principal items of increase in the 1942 production schedule and the Government's price-support policies to help farmers reach them:

More Fats and Oils

The goal for soybeans is raised to 9 million acres; flaxseed, $4\frac{1}{2}$ million acres, and peanuts, 5 million acres. (After Pearl Harbor Americans realized that they had depended on the Far East for more than a billion and a half pounds of fats and oils each year.) To encourage more oil-crop production at home, price and loan supports will be employed: A loan on flaxseed averaging at least \$2.10 per bushel at the farm; purchases of designated varieties of soybeans at \$1.60 per bushel, farm price, and of peanuts for oil at \$82 a ton for top grade. Lard production will be stimulated.

The goals for corn are upped by 5 million acres in order to feed more and fatter hogs, and increase dairy and poultry production. Corn acreage allotments are raised 10 percent and there will be no marketing quotas on corn this year. In order to have more feed, corn producers in the commercial area may plant up to their usual acreage without reduction in AAA payments. This will be especially helpful in the dairy regions.

Converting Ever-Normal Granary

A program is in the making to convert large amounts of Ever Normal Granary wheat into livestock and poultry feed. USDA is arranging to release Government-owned wheat for feeding at prices comparable with corn, in order to provide storage space for the new wheat crop, as well as to expand feed supplies in certain areas.

Numbers of hogs and chickens on farms have increased so greatly since the first goals were announced four months ago that the goals for hogs marketed in 1942 can be raised by four million head, and eggs by 200 million dozen.

The price-supporting program at a minimum of 85 percent of parity for hogs, eggs, evaporated milk, dry skim milk, cheese, and chickens (except broilers) remains in effect.

Because of ample supplies, wheat and rye acreages remain at the same level. The rice goal has been raised by 120,000 acres, and all restrictions on acreage are removed. The goal for dry beans is 13 percent above the 1941 acreage and for dry edible peas

is 73 percent above the 1941 acreage. Prices will be supported at not less than \$4.75 per hundredweight for No. 1 grades of specified varieties of beans and not less than \$5.25 per hundredweight for number one dry peas of specified varieties.

Canned Tomatoes and Peas

The goal for canning vegetable crops is moved way up. The program now calls for an increase of more than one-fifth over the 1941 pack of canned peas and tomatoes. Note carefully: USDA will purchase canned tomatoes and peas only from canners who have been certified by the USDA War Board, formerly Defense Board, in the State as having contracted with growers for at least the minimum fair prices recommended. USDA will buy at prices which will enable cooperating canners to pay the growers at least \$5 a ton above the comparable average 1940 price for tomatoes for canning. For peas, the increase is \$17.50 a ton. While the USDA still does not guarantee prices to individual growers, the growers can obtain their share of the increase by contracting with cooperating canners.

Indications are that crops of vegetables for fresh use in 1942 will also show an increase over 1941. The canned-fruit pack is expected to be 4 million cases larger and dried fruit pack 100,000 tons larger than last year.

The potato goal provides for acreage increases over 1941 and price supports are being announced. Goals for all types of tobacco except cigar wrapper have been moved upward.

Long Staple Cotton Needed

It is expected that cotton acreage will be about a million acres larger than was expected in September (but still under the legal limitations confirmed by the farmers who voted for continued quotas last December). Special premiums will be offered to increase production of long-staple cotton.

There is no limitation on plantings of sugar beets and sugarcane in 1942. To replace the one-sixth part of our sugar which the Philippines used to send us, and the possibly smaller shipments from Hawaii, producers in the United States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Cuba, and other foreign countries are stepping up production. But a major British sugar supply in Java stands in danger; the Russians, burning up energy in their magnificent drive against the Nazis, may need more sugar, too.

USDA Reorganized for War

To help farmers do their job this Department has now taken its wartime shape, both in Washington and in the field. In the States and counties, the spearhead is carried by USDA War Boards, organized last summer to bring together and coordinate the war work of representatives of all action agencies of the Department. In December the Secretary also reorganized the administrative set-up within the Department for more effective wartime coordination.

Each employee of each agency named below should study the new organization carefully to see where he comes in, learn, if he does not yet know them, the functions of the other agencies now linked with his, and prepare himself for eager cooperation.

Administrative Groups

The Secretary has grouped the 19 line agencies, which formerly reported direct to him, under 8 group administrators. He has also set up an Agricultural Defense Board consisting of these 8 administrators and 3 others.

Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Soil Conservation Service, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, and the Sugar Division are under R. M. Evans, former AAA Administrator, now *Administrator of Agricultural Adjustment and Conservation*. Dillon S. Myer, former SCS Assistant Chief, becomes Assistant Administrator to Evans.

Surplus Marketing Administration, Commodity Exchange Administration, and Agricultural Marketing Service (except Division of Agricultural Statistics) are under Roy F. Hendrickson, former SMA Administrator, now *Administrator of Agricultural Marketing*. C. W. Kitchen, AMS Chief, is Assistant Administrator.

The Bureaus of Animal Industry, Dairy Industry, Plant Industry, Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering, Entomology and Plant Quarantine, and Home Economics, and the Office of Experiment Stations are under E. C. Auchter, BPI Chief, who is now also *Administrator of Agricultural Research*.

The remaining five groups consist of only one agency apiece. They are Commodity Credit Corporation (J. B. Hutson, President), Farm Security Administration (C. B. Baldwin, Administrator), Forest Service (Earle H. Clapp, Acting Chief), Farm Credit Administration (A. G. Black, Governor), and Rural Electrification Administration (Harry Slattery, Administrator).

The other three members of the Agricultural Defense Board are M. Clifford Townsend, Director of the Office of Agricultural Defense Relations, H. R. Tolley, Chief, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension Work.

Appointments

At the same time the Secretary made the following appointments:

Land Use Coordinator Milton S. Eisenhower will also be Associate Director of Extension. Fred Wallace, Chairman of the Nebraska Agricultural Conservation Committee, is AAA Chief, succeeding Evans. E. D. White, Assistant Director of the CCC Cotton Division, becomes AAA Assistant Chief. E. W. Gaumnitz, SMA Assistant Administrator, becomes Chief of SMA, succeeding Hendrickson. Evans will continue as Chairman, and Wallace and White will become members of the FCIC Board of Directors. Mr. Kitchen will continue as Chief of AMS in addition to duties as Assistant Administrator of the Marketing group. Hugh H. Bennett will continue to be SCS Chief.

FARMERS AND THE AXIS PLOT

"With Hitler's formation of the Berlin - Rome - Tokyo alliance, all these plans of conquest became a single plan. Under this, in addition to her own schemes of conquest, Japan's role was to cut off our supply of weapons of war to Britain, Russia, and China—weapons which increasingly were speeding the day of Hitler's doom. The act of Japan at Pearl Harbor was intended to stun us—to terrify us to such an extent that we would divert our industrial and military strength to the Pacific area, or even to our own continental defense." — President Roosevelt. Message to Congress on the State of the Union, January 6, 1942.

Last month USDA's Marketing Administrator Roy F. Hendrickson announced plans to provision Hawaii's 423,000 people who depend on the States for the bulk of their supplies. But this, like the military and naval action in the Pacific, was only an incident in the worldwide strategy of the United Nations against a worldwide Axis plot. This plot specifically includes American farmers; against the plot they must and will stand united with other farmers of the free world.

The Axis plot includes every kind of whisper which can be spread among farm people to divide one group from another. It includes whispers about the price supports guaranteed by Congress, and about the agriculture of our Allies and of the other nations in this hemisphere. Above all, the whispers still say, "We can trade with Hitler, if he wins."

Any farmers believing such whisper would soon be unconvinced if they could see the confidential reports which come to Washington from the listening-posts in neutral nations and from secret sources in the occupied countries. For wherever Hitler goes the farmer slips back a thousand years; he becomes a serf, bound to the land, and bound to produce only what the overlord demands, at whatever price the overlord will pay. This is true first of all of German farmers themselves, now tied to the soil by iron Nazi law. In Germany, once a farmer, always a farmer. This is true of farmers in each conquered land. Danish farmers have lost half their pig stocks to Germany; Yugoslavia, normally an agricultural exporting nation, now suffers shortages and hunger but must increase tobacco acreage by Nazi command; Greece is starving.

The Nazis systematically destroy American farm export markets wherever they go, by removing heavy industries from the conquered zones (so that they cannot again make weapons for their self-defense) and sending in German experts to redirect agricultural produc-

tion with the subject races as their slaves. Nazi cotton and tobacco experts followed their armies in the Balkans. France, by Nazi admission, is destined to become a peasant country under their rule.

How Hitler Would Trade

The original Axis plot against the interests of American farmers, most observers think, did not necessarily include direct military conquest. Hitler had a cheaper scheme in mind. He would prefer to conquer us by our own surpluses. If Hitler wins, post-war Europe, according to Nazi Minister of Agriculture Darre, is to produce agricultural supplies sufficient for the ruling race (even though the subject races starve). After crushing England, Hitler would let American farmers pile up disastrous surpluses, even worse than those of 1932. Then, indeed, it will be possible to trade with Hitler, at his price. This price, it should be noted, invariably includes political as well as economic considerations—"just pass a few 'racial laws,' like a good fellow, don't talk quite so much about democracy, and we'll be glad to relieve you of surplus cotton, tobacco, or wheat. Oh, yes; and just forget that National Farm Program." By the same process his agents, for several years before Pearl Harbor, tried to penetrate Latin America, setting race against race, and nation against nation. American farmers were actually marked as a "soft spot" on the Axis chart.

Events have proved otherwise. Before the end of 1941, USDA announced that the millionth ton of lend-lease food had arrived safely on English soil—and American farmers cheered. Before the end of 1941, 6 million farmers had filed with committeemen, whom they had elected, their plans to do their part in meeting the war needs of the United Nations.

Whispers of Hope

In Germany, the slow, relentless pressure of blockade is working the other way. Last summer the German meat ration was reduced from 500 grams to 400 grams per week with a promised restoration this winter. But the ration has not yet been restored and may soon be reduced. Food from the Ukraine was promised the German people in official propaganda; but the Russians are seeing to that. And throughout hungry Europe there run whispers of hope: "American farmers are raising the greatest amount of food in their history. They have upped their already huge goals for 1942. As soon as the Nazis go there will be food from America to eat."

These whispers were based upon public fact. Over and over Secretary Wickard has promised American farmers that on the moment of peace, our vast stocks of food will be used to feed the hungry of Europe. Such are the war aims of America, as stated by the President:

"Our own objectives are clear; the objective of smashing the militarism imposed by war lords upon their enslaved peoples—the objective of liberating the subjugated

nations—the objective of establishing and securing freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from want, and freedom from fear everywhere in the world."

In each farming region of the United States, while there is still snow on the ground, and after machinery repair and other winter chores are done, farm people are talking these things over. Planning for a post-war world, actively under way in Washington and regional committee meetings of USDA officials, draws strength from the farm men and women who are determined first upon victory, second upon building a world where this cannot happen again.

MEN AT WORK

Secretary Wickard and other Department officers are meeting currently with the members of the U. S. D. A. War Boards of the South and the Corn Belt. January 28 and 29, in Atlanta, War Board members of 16 Southern States gathered in. February 2, War Board members of 12 Corn Belt States met in St. Louis.

To the War Board men, Secretary Wickard gave the job of advising farmers about the revised production goals (see page 8). Particular emphasis in these two regions, of course, will be placed on steep increases in acreage of all crops—peanuts, soybeans, flaxseed.

Again the AAA committeemen who made the farm to farm canvass in late fall and early winter will be taking the specifications of the wartime job of the nation's farmers right into their neighbors' homes and talking it out. The November-December canvass by 120 thousand farmer committeemen acquainted farmers as no group of farmers ever had been acquainted before with the need for adjustments in production—up in most lines, down in a very few.

Farmers Say They'll Try—and Hard

The preliminary estimates given by farmers to their fellow farmer AAA committeemen indicated a willingness—an eagerness—to meet the goals as set last September. For some of the main groups of commodities these were the tentative indications of farm production planned by farmers in November and December:

Farm product	Unit	Farmers' estimate for 1942	Percent of 1941 actual
Soybeans.....	1,000 acres..	9,911	151
Peanuts.....	1,000 acres..	3,171	197
Dry beans.....	1,000 acres..	2,128	104
Hogs.....	1,000.....	89,470	130
Beef cattle.....	1,000.....	32,343	114
Eggs.....	Mil. doz.....	3,959	124
Milk cows.....	1,000.....	26,108	111
Milk production..	Mil. lb.....	125,058	111

Since the farmers reported their intentions to the AAA committeeman

new difficulties in the way of production have become apparent; since then, too, some of the goals have been raised, and even the enthusiastic estimates of the farmers in late fall will fall short of the needed production. A year of long, hard toil for every farm family and every public employee serving agriculture is in prospect if the nation's war needs are to be met.

First concern of many USDA employees during the last fortnight both in Washington and in the field has been how to help farmers relieve the difficulties which, as Secretary Wickard predicted, were beginning to multiply faster than weeds in wet weather. Following are some of the actions taken recently by this and other branches of the Federal Government, and by Department employees in the field, to relieve some of the principal shortages.

Farm Labor

In January, the public employment offices throughout the country were again federalized under the United States Employment Service, a branch of the Federal Security Agency. Its Farm Placement Service is being rapidly expanded with specially trained farm placement officers in each State to help meet labor shortages. The Service will work closely with USDA State and county war boards. Farm Security Administration plans more migratory labor camps. Farm labor subcommittees of the agricultural planning committees in many rural counties are at work. Some counties are forming farm labor exchanges. In the final analysis, farm labor supply is a local problem, everywhere, to be solved by whatever means come to hand locally.

Local draft boards have instructions recently issued by Director of Selective Service Hershey to grant occupational deferment in cases where a man who cannot be replaced is working in one of the lines of agricultural production which are essential to the war effort; General Hershey's instructions listed the specific types of agricultural occupation considered essential. But the final decision still remains with the local board.

Machinery

The labor shortage is worsened by curtailment of new machinery which otherwise could take the place of labor on farms. The War Production Board (formerly OPM) has made available materials for the manufacture of farm machinery during 1942 to the extent of only 83 percent of the amount made in 1940 (and there is no guarantee that the quota can be filled). Quotas, however, reflect war needs. For example, while only 71 percent as many steel plowshares are allowed, peanut pickers (which step up production of oil to replace what the Japs have cut off) are way up—208 percent. No steel wheelbarrows; all the wooden wheelbarrows you want. While material for new farm machinery is cut down, materials for attachments and parts are set at an average rate of about 150 percent of the 1940 level.

For want of a nail the nursery-rhyme war was lost. WPB has revised its previous orders to make a reasonably adequate supply of farm hardware available, creating a new classification of special value to agriculture. It includes bale ties, nails, welding rods, wire rope, fencing, poultry netting, etc. There is no priority on lumber, cement, stone, rock, tile, or glass. There is no priority on fertilizers, fungicides, and disinfectants. For everything, whether or not it is under priorities, farmers order through their regular channels. Farmers do not need priorities to buy, do not need to fill out forms or contact the WPB, except in case of crawler-type tractors and heavy-duty electric motors. For either of these, a farmer must make application on an WPB Form PD-1 (obtainable on request to his local USDA War Board), if his local dealer cannot supply him.

Machinery Repair

Last fall orders went out to start a campaign to repair now, now, NOW every repairable machine on an American farm. To USDA Defense Boards went the call to bring together the vocational agriculture teachers who have machine shops in 10,000 country high schools, the agriculture engineering specialists of State colleges, and the managers of field repair shops of the SCS, the Forest Service, and other Federal agencies. These are organized into an auxiliary corps to help out the village blacksmith and the cross-roads garageman, and all of them together will fix any piece of farm machinery that is fixable, and can't be fixed on the farm. Now reports are coming in from the field, showing how these orders have been carried out and, in some cases, improved upon:

In Iowa, the State USDA War Board wrote copy for farm machinery repair advertisements to be run in county weeklies by groups of local dealers.

In Tennessee, Extension Editor Sims prepared a sample ad for farm machinery repair to be run by interested hardware stores or banks, sent it to local editors.

In Oklahoma, the vocational agriculture department planned a "machinery bank" to pool spare parts and "surplus" implements at 190 local repair and reassembling points—where farmers can go for anything from parts to tractors, so long as they last.

In Kansas, county USDA War Boards are organizing night schools in machinery repair, in cooperation with vocational agriculture teachers and implement dealers. Farm machinery manufacturers with branches in the State are helping in the campaign.

In Idaho, banks are cooperating in the repair campaign with printed literature.

Scrap Metal

Back of the shortage of farm machinery is a shortage of metal-needed to make the steel for tanks, planes, guns, and ships. The drive of USDA War Boards to collect every available piece of scrap iron from the farms was started at the same time as the ma-

chinery repair campaign and naturally goes hand in hand with it.

In Missouri, Boy Scouts are helping to locate rural scrap iron.

In Utah, vocational agriculture teachers are not only cooperating in machinery repair but have joined with USDA War Boards in promoting the scrap collection.

In Hoke County, N. C., a single day's collection under the direction of the county USDA War Board brought in 300,000 pounds. Nearly all Hoke County farm families took part and many gave the cash proceeds to the Red Cross, whose campaign was running at the same time. Local banks, without charge for their service, arranged to pay off the farmers at eight scrap metal receiving stations throughout the county. The banks collected from the licensed junk dealers who picked up the metal and weighed it.

And in Washington, the WPB announced an increase of \$1 per ton in the base price of ordinary farm scrap iron and steel. State and county USDA War Boards will have the revised price schedules for their localities.

Rubber

E. W. Brandes, BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY, is directing one of the big wartime jobs of the Department outside the borders of the country. Nearly 15 million rubber seeds have been planted in Latin America within the last year, mostly as part of the cooperative rubber program in which USDA is working closely with 12 Latin American governments from Mexico to Peru. Just before Pearl Harbor a final shipment of 5,500 budded rubber trees arrived from the Philippines. Tapping may be started when the trees are 4 to 5 years old.

Guayule

The Department has sent a favorable report to Congress on a plan for planting 75,000 acres of rubber-yielding guayule bushes, and harvesting the crop. Guayule is the one natural rubber plant that has been grown commercially in the United States (in our Southwestern States). While guayule does not mature for several years, some rubber can be obtained at the end of 3 years from the time of planting the seed. Until about 1947, when considerable rubber from the Western Hemisphere comes in, the only answer is increased synthetic production, reclamation—and above all, conservation.

USDA Does Without

Department employees are not going to get new tires when the present ones wear out on their official cars or their personal cars used for official business. They may as well accept that now as a settled fact and act in the light of it. Arrangements for retreading tires for official cars are being worked on, but at best Department employees must travel more by train, bus, or boat, and double, triple, and quadruple up in travel by official car or personal car on official business. Eventually, direct mail and telephone will be used much more than at present. The educational system we now use based largely on meetings will

have to be shrunk into a new mold because the rubber supply won't stretch out.

No tires or tubes for farmers' cars, even if used for work. Farmers with trucks used for hauling to market (but not for hauling to retail customers) can apply for permission to purchase tires through their local tire rationing boards.

* * * In all Colorado counties, campaigns are underway to collect rubber, and also paper and paper boxes. Cities and towns, as well as the rural districts, are included.

Burlap

Farmers felt their first real wartime pinch by drastic restrictions on the supply of burlap bags. Jute for burlap comes from India and future imports are uncertain, while military and civilian defense orders for sandbags eat into the available supply. Saving and mending every burlap bag is an order of the day. Bags should be opened carefully along the seams; never cut. Bags containing acids should be emptied immediately. Cotton bagging will be short, too—even paper bags. Farmers, and USDA employees, who save everything won't be wrong.

Tobacco Cloth

Because mills are busy spinning surgical gauze for the armed forces, there is also an acute shortage of tobacco plant-bed cloth—while the AAA announced a 10-percent increase in allotments and quotas of flue-cured tobacco. (Soldiers and civilians smoke more during war.) To help out, Bureau of Plant Industry and Extension Service are starting a drive against blue mold. Farmers usually set out many more plants than they expect to harvest. With Government advice on beating blue mold farmers can set fewer plants and get by with less cloth.

Bale Ties

Farmers, dairymen, stockyard operators, and livestock producers are requested to make special efforts to conserve bale ties (baling wire). The Department estimates that farmers will need between 90,000 and 100,000 tons of 14- and 15-gage wire for baling hay, straw, and other forage crops in 1942. This is equivalent in weight to about three modern battleships, or 3 thousand medium tanks.

Storage

And there is a shortage of storage too, already serious in some wheat areas as a bumper wheat crop piles on top of a surplus which has required marketing quotas. Commercial grain storage is limited, and the war is straining the trucks and rails. Also, farm storage of grain offers less of a mark for sabotage than centralized commercial storage.

As production zooms, and until the bridge of ships is built, there may be serious shortages of cold storage and general dry storage. Department committees are working on the problem.

Canning

Canners, like the rest of the Nation's food-processing industry, are called on for a record-breaking job in the face of a scarcity of metals needed for equipment. Soil Conservation Service field men in Colorado are helping to survey the potential canning facilities of the State. Even home canning will face its bottlenecks, too, in obtaining pressure cookers, rubber rings to seal the glass jars and the zinc jar tops. Jar tops, unlike the rubber, can be used again, provided they are in good condition.

Credit

Of credit, fortunately, there is no shortage. All Department credit agencies are using their functions as a tool for victory. Some examples:

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION reported that more farmers and ranchers were borrowing from Production Credit Associations throughout the country; also loans are larger and attendance at annual meetings is greater than ever before. During the first 11 months of 1941, PCA loans amounted to about \$374,000,000 compared to \$315,000,000 for the same period of 1940. FCA is moving to Kansas City.

FARM SECURITY ADMINISTRATOR Baldwin appointed C. M. Evans, formerly regional director for region VIII, as his special assistant to promote Food for Freedom production among low-income farmers throughout the South, where food deficiencies are greatest and production shifts most needed. He will use the standard tools developed by FSA—rehabilitation loans accompanied by farm-and-home management plans, community service loans for the joint purchase and use of equipment and services, etc.—and coordinate them with the work of other Department agencies and with livestock and other groups interested in improvement of dairy, beef, poultry, and pork production. Evans has been well known as a breeder of purebred livestock for the past 25 years. Wilson Cowan, director for region VII, will take on the adjacent region VIII.

Repayments made by more than 624,000 FSA families increased 75.4 percent between July 1 and October 1 over the same period last year. Many are now not only taking care of themselves but are raising Food for Freedom, too. Families who have received tenant-purchase loans from FSA to buy their own farms have repaid 96.5 percent of the principal and interest due for the 4 years ending June 30, 1941. These, too, are raising more food. Thus, FSA, preparing to move to Cincinnati, was not moving out of the war.

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REA, ordered to move to St. Louis and facing difficulties in obtaining copper and other supplies for new lines, continued to serve war needs. In the first week of the new year Administrator Slattery announced an allotment to an electric cooperative for a line to serve a new aluminum plant being built in the South. REA systems in 1941 were supplying more than 5,000 rural industries and stores and 800 commercial food-processing plants. But greatest REA war service has been the electrification of 1,400,000 American farms (directly or through the stimulus exerted on the private utilities) within the past 6½ years. Electricity in the barn, the henhouse, and the milkshed makes possible quick expansion of FfF.

USDA Delivers the Goods

Roy Hendrickson, Marketing Administrator, is now the biggest food buyer in the country, bigger even than the Army. By the first week in January 1942, weekly purchases were running at the rate of more than 13 million pounds of canned pork and 8 million pounds of bacon and ham, more than 7 million pounds of cheese, and 1½ million pounds of dry skim milk, 5 million pounds of soybeans, 300,000 pounds of whole dried eggs, and so on through a long list of foods. During the same week, COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION made available for Lend-Lease 37,000 bales of cotton, 4,428,480 pounds of gum rosin, and 748 tierces of tobacco.

Meanwhile the SMA's Food Stamp Plan continued to spread. During November 1941, blue food stamps added \$8,800,000 worth of farm products to the diets of 3,300,000 persons.

Milk-marketing agreements in many parts of the country have needed revising as more milk flows into products destined for lend-lease. Depending on circumstances, price changes may be required to insure plenty of fluid milk in local markets despite the heavy drain into processing plants. New regulations for procedures to be followed in drawing up marketing agreements and orders became effective January 1, 1942. Copies of the new regulations are available on request to the Hearing Clerk, Office of the Solicitor, USDA.

Food for Freedom

At Huron, S. Dak., the USDA joined with defense and civic groups in a "Northwest Production for Victory Exposition" in mid-January. Under Secretary Appleby spoke the first day, Mrs. Claude R. Wickard (for civilian defense) the second. The Department shipped a small carload of Food for Freedom exhibits to be shown in 150 store windows.

A seven-car FfF train, loaded with exhibits, is touring the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad January 23–March 18.

FfF grows under the shadow of enemy bombers in Hawaii which, like Puerto Rico, recently formed its USDA War Board.

FfF Short-Waved to Europe

News of what American farmers are doing to beat Hitler is broadcast over the National Farm and Home Hour, and over short-wave to Axis nations and their conquered territories. Stories of American farmers with German, Italian, or other Axis ancestry who are producing food and otherwise working for victory ring the bell with these listeners. Many such authenticated stories have already come in; others may be sent in by USDA employees through their supervisors or direct to the Office of Information, USDA, Washington, D. C.

Victory Gardens

Many a smooth front lawn was a World War I casualty. The drive for Victory Gardens in World War II, mapped at a conference at the Department had a four-point emphasis: (1) Many more farm gardens (see the production goals on p. 8); (2) more fruit gardens; (3) more community and school gardens; and (4) conservation of lawns and flowers. In 1942, seed, fertilizer, and tools are too precious to waste on trying to grow vegetables in yards full of cinders. (But for suburbanites with good garden plots it's another story.) USDA field employees have the job of helping to provide the know-how for all Victory gardeners.

Any Bonds Today?

The potted palms are gone from the patio of the Department building in Washington. Since October, half the space has been occupied by Department wives, sewing for the USDA Chapter of the Red Cross, headed by Mrs. Paul Appleby. They work usually from morning until their husbands can go home, which is late. In one corner, employees register for civilian defense and in another corner Miss Gertrude Rest of the OFFICE OF PLANT AND OPERATIONS sells Defense Savings stamps and takes orders for bonds. From August until mid-January, employees in Washington and Beltsville had bought them to the amount of \$404,542.33; organizations within the Department had contributed \$49,600; and the field had bought \$676,616.19 worth, for a total of \$1,130,758.52 in stamps and bonds bought by USDA workers. Leading bureaus at present, both in Washington and the field, are SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE, FOREST SERVICE, and the BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY. They lead the rest of us by a wide—too wide—margin.

* * * With a loud roar of Ayes, AAA committeemen of Kansas at their annual State convention in Salina voted a \$1,000,000 defense bond drive from now to March 1. This means approximately one \$25 bond for every third farmer in the State. Time will be given free.

Forests

The FOREST SERVICE has made its fire-look-out towers and stations avail-

able as air-raid spotting stations and for detection of possible enemy signal fires or sabotage. In 1918, 21 States were cooperating with the Federal Government in providing some degree of fire protection for little more than 100 million acres of forest land. In 1941, 41 States and Hawaii were cooperating with the Service in organized fire protection for close to 300 million acres. About 146,000,000 acres of American forest area (one-fourth of the total) still lack such organized protection.

* * * Army and commercial pilots flying over mountains in the West have been offered the use of 140 shelter cabins used by snow surveyors for SCS and other agencies.

Civilian Defense

In Idaho, the chairman of county USDA War Boards were instructed to meet with their opposite numbers, the chairmen of the local civilian defense councils, to arrange for joint meetings and coordinated programs. This is an idea which can be copied elsewhere.

In the State of Washington, Extension Specialist Frazier prepared a bulletin on how to black-out the chickenhouse against air attack.

In Amarillo, Tex., the USDA Club planned a speaker's bureau to work with the local civilian defense council, and tell agriculture's end of the war effort at luncheon clubs, etc. In hundreds of other towns, joint meetings of AAA



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committeemen and local businessmen are being held.

The Bureau of Home Economics is at work on a new type of home-made fireless cooker for use under air attack (when stove jets are turned off). The Bureau has information now on black-out cutrains.

Cotton Gins to War?

G. A. Gerdes, USDA cotton-gin specialist, has suggested to the Louisiana USDA War Board that cotton gins in the South might well be used for war industry. There are more than 13,000 gins which, he estimates, could have processed even the large crop of 1937 in 15 to 20 days. Thus, if 80 percent of the existing gin facilities were transformed into war production industries, the crop could still be handled in 75 to 100 days. Many gins are on railroad sidings and nearly all are located on good roads. Gin operators are reported eager to cooperate.

Sodium Nitrate

About 70 percent of our sodium nitrate comes from South America and lack of shipping space may interfere with imports. Sodium nitrate is now allocated to manufacturers, both for fertilizer and home mix, by the War Production Board. It will be released each month to farm areas where the need is most currently urgent, but besides its use as fertilizer, sodium nitrate is needed to make industrial explosives, nitric acid, potassium nitrate, and glass, and in meat curing and preserving.

Molasses Feed

The WPB has restricted monthly supplies of molasses for feed (other than for the barrel trade) to 50 percent of a 30-day supply (one-twelfth of the quantity used by a manufacturer or distributor during the year ended June 30, 1941). Molasses for insecticides has been held to a 30-day supply for any calendar month, and molasses for rum has been discontinued.

Army Salvage

The Army has informed USDA that farmers will be given an opportunity to buy supplies and salvage property at Army posts, such as egg crates and other food packages (but not burlap bags) which the Army needs. It is suggested that at every locality where there is an Army post, a representative of the USDA County War Board call on the Salvage Officer of the post to learn what is to be disposed of and what arrangements can be made.

Fumigants

Farmers and USDA employees who buy fumigants are urged to do so at once.

THE REVISED GOALS FOR 1942

with the percentages of the corresponding acreage, production, or slaughter for 1941

Commodity	Unit	1941	September goal	Revised goal	Percent of 1941
Milk	Pounds	116,500,000	Thousands of units	Thousands of units	Thousands of units
Eggs	Dozens	3,728,000	125,000,000	125,000,000	107
Chickens ¹ (slaughter)	Number	585,000	4,000,000	4,200,000	113
Hogs (slaughter)	Number	72,500	644,000	644,000	110
Corn	Acres	87,164	79,300	83,000	114
Cotton ²	Acres	23,250	87,500 to 90,000	92,500 to 95,000	108
Wheat	Acres	62,400	22,000 to 24,000	25,000	108
Tobacco:			50,000 to 55,000	55,000	88
Flue-cured	Acres	732	762	843	115
Burley	Acres	357	358	383	107
Other domestic	Acres	261	247	272	104
Rice	Acres	1,245	1,200	1,320	106
Sugarcane	Acres	265	(3)	(3)	
Sugar beets	Acres	775	(3)	(3)	
Dry beans ⁴	Acres	2,304	Same as 1941	2,600	113
Dry field peas	Acres	384	(3)	665	173
Canning peas	Cases	28,700	(3)	38,000	132
Canning tomatoes	Cases	34,000	(3)	40,000	118
Farm gardens	Number	4,431	About 5,760	5,760	130
Turpentine	Barrels	285	400	450	158
Rosin	Barrels	950	1,333	1,500	158
Cover crop seed	Acres	265	415	415	157
Soybeans	Acres	5,855	7,000	9,000	154
Flaxseed	Acres	3,367	Same as 1941	4,500	134
Peanuts ⁵	Acres	1,964	3,500	5,000 or same	255

¹ Farm production only, does not include nonfarm production or commercial broiler output.

² Within this acreage, a shift toward the production of longer staples will be encouraged in the areas where such cotton can be produced.

³ No acreage restriction for 1942.

⁴ Goal for dry beans is increased acreage for white, pink, and pinto beans, other varieties about the same acreage as in 1941.

⁵ Goal for peanuts is about 1,600,000 acres for nuts, or same as 1941, and 3,400,000 acres for oil.

In addition to the 1942 goals, acreage or production or slaughter is expected as follows in 1942, in view of the current price and supply outlook. In general, it is believed

that the expected production listed below will be obtained without any special encouragement or additional price support. Comparisons with 1941 are given.

Commodity	Unit	1941	September estimate	Revised estimate	Percent of 1941
Cattle and calves (slaughter)	Number	Thousands of units	Thousands of units	Thousands of units	
Sheep and lambs (slaughter)	Number	25,905	28,000	28,000	108
Wool	No. shorn	22,630	22,900	22,900	101
Turkeys (slaughter)	Number	48,900	51,200	51,200	105
Oats	Acres	32,500	(3)	35,750	110
Barley	Acres	39,363	40,000	40,000	102
Rye	Acres	15,080	About 14,375	16,000	106
Grain Sorghum	Acres	3,500	Same as 1941	3,550	101
All hay	Acres	9,397	9,375	10,000	106
Potatoes	Acres	71,893	74 to 75,000	72,000	100
Sweet potatoes	Acres	2,793	About 3,060	3,060	110
Fresh vegetables:					
Commercial truck	Acres	843	About 850	850	101
Market gardens	Acres	1,680	About 1,875	1,840	110
Canning vegetables ¹	Acres	1,065	About 1,075	1,075	101
Fruit ²					
Hay crop seed	Acres	3,923	(3)	4,919	125
Lumber	Board feet	32,500,000	(3)	33,600,000	103
Pulp wood	Cards	14,300	(3)	14,300	100

¹ About same as 1941.

² Total production about same as 1941. Fruit production cannot be easily increased, and emphasis should be on prevention of waste and better distribution of utilization as between fresh, dried, and canned.

U S D A



February 20, 1942, Volume I, Number 2

FARM PRICES

Now, as the slow sun wears its way toward the northward sky over fields awaiting the most important crop season of the century, Americans know their national policy with respect to farm prices. It is a policy hammered out on the anvil of public debate in which the Secretary of Agriculture took part. Secretary Wickard throughout 1941 consistently counseled farmers and consumers to stick with the idea of parity price. In a score of speeches and statements and interviews he stated his position: Parity is fair to both.

Using all the leverage of the farm program, plus lend-lease food buying, the Secretary and his colleagues worked steadily during the year to lift prices toward parity. Aided by fast-growing consumer buying power, the average price of all farm products by September had almost attained the goal of parity.

In the great debate over price control Secretary Wickard spoke the farmers' conviction that they did not want another post-war deflation (they had enough after World War I) and therefore were for measures to control wartime inflation. From coast to coast the Secretary repeated his doctrine: *Given parity prices, farmers will produce enough of nearly everything to meet the expanding needs of ourselves and the other democracies. This is the best insurance against inflation. To get production, we need parity prices. To stop inflation we should keep prices at around parity. In some cases we will have to use price ceilings to do this. Since prices fluctuate, we should put the ceiling a little above parity. However, this principle cannot be applied to every product. In order to get enough of some commodities we may have to bid much higher.*

The Secretary did more than talk about fair prices. He directed that Government stocks of corn be sold at the loan rate—85 percent of parity. Moderate prices for livestock feed encourage farmers to produce more meat, milk, and eggs and thus help to keep their prices at a level fair to consumers. Wheat also is now being sold for feed from the Ever-Normal Granary at a price that makes it as attractive as corn to livestock producers. Corn and wheat farmers in the AAA program are assured of parity price through parity pay-

ments. Secretary Wickard explained recently that this operation takes about 100 million dollars out of the Treasury in parity payments but saves consumers at least a billion dollars a year in their bills for meat, milk, and eggs. This is one brake on inflation.

On January 30 the President signed the Price Control Act of 1942, giving the Administrator of Price Control power to limit prices (wholesale or retail) of all commodities and rents. Price ceilings on farm products at the wholesale markets must have the approval of the Secretary of Agriculture. No ceiling may be set below whichever of the fol-

lowing four levels is the highest: (1) 110 percent of parity; (2) the market price on October 1, 1941; (3) the market price on December 15, 1941; and (4) the average price from July 1, 1919, to June 30, 1929.

Immediately Administrator Henderson and Secretary Wickard stated their joint intention: They will spare no effort to prevent inflation. The Secretary will release Government-owned stocks of grain and cotton to supplement private stocks since the great reality in inflation control is adequate supply; the Secretary will use price supports and other inducements to help farmers turn

FARM PRICE-CONTROL TEAM: Claude R. Wickard, responsible for agricultural production, shares with Leon Henderson the job of farm price control.



out the greatest production in history; also to help farmers the Price Administrator in 1942 will hold down the prices of things farmers buy; but if the supply is not enough to prevent inflationary prices, or if speculators and profiteers drive prices out of line, ceilings will be slapped on; at the same time the Government will keep the margin between the raw material and the price of the finished goods steady or shrink it if possible and fair; where there is not enough to go around, steps will be taken to assure fair distribution. Loyal consumers will not hoard or waste. The Government will draw attention to commodities in abundant supply and to desirable shifts in food habits.

MEN AT WORK

Five Farmers Report

● Henry Grazioso, New Jersey farmer who was born in the Abruzzi region of Italy, is making his 50 acres of market garden do their utmost to beat Mussolini, Hitler, and the Mikado. Last year he added 16 acres to his farm, most of which is under irrigation. Besides farming, Henry is acting as post warden in his district. His brother is an air-raid warden. One of his sisters, an Army nurse, was in Hawaii when the Japs raided Pearl Harbor and two other sisters are studying Red Cross nursing. Henry is on the labor committee and executive committee of the county board of agriculture. To date the family has bought more than \$600 worth of Defense Bonds.

● In Tennessee, E. L. Schultz of Hickory Valley, Hardeman County, got up at a meeting not long ago and offered the free use of his tractor and combine to harvest up to 25 acres of grain or feed on any small farm in the community. Mr. Schultz operates a livestock farm and does contract harvesting for his neighbors but he recognizes that sometimes a man with a small patch of grain would feel he wasn't justified in hiring a custom harvester for just a few acres. So Mr. Schultz, to beat Hitler, will be glad to do it free.

● "Dad reads everything he can get ahold of on feeding the sows," said 23-year-old Anna Marie, daughter of Mrs. Carl H. J. Hauschmidt, as she started her evening round of milking on the Hauschmidt's 120-acre farm in Pottawattamie County, east of Council Bluffs, Iowa. Hauschmidt, who has a son with a United States Army pursuit squadron in the Canal Zone, after the war began replaced a number of his cows with high producers, built up his herd to barn capacity, and checked over his feeding methods. Now there are 19 cows in the stanchions at milking time, compared to 10 a year ago. Anna Marie and her mother are collecting 50 percent more eggs from their Rhode Island Reds than they did a

year ago—due mainly to improved winter quarters and the best of care.

"It's no snap taking warm water out to the hens these below-zero mornings," Marie reports. "But it helps to get more eggs."

● In the French-speaking potato country of northern Maine, Patrick E. Bourgoin, a borrower from the FARM SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, sat down and wrote to his FSA supervisor:

"Cher, Mr. Morneau. We need aid again this year, just like many others as we are not rich and we want to do everything we can for the defense of our country, the place that is so dear to all of us." He added a postscript: "Avec toutes nos forces et notre puissance nous remporterons la victoire" (with all our strength and might we will achieve victory). Last year Mr. Bourgoin raised \$673 worth of home-grown food for his family. He has 3 cows, 2 hogs, 11 sheep, 20 hens, and 2 acres of potatoes. This year, with help from FSA, he will double his milking herd, add 75 hens, raise one more hog, and increase his flock of sheep—all towards "la victoire."

● Hans Peterson, who owns two large dairy farms in Boone County, Illinois, before Pearl Harbor, had planned to retire from active farming this year, as he and Mrs. Peterson are getting along in years. Not now. Peterson is unwilling to turn his milk cows over to hands that might be less expert. "For years I've belonged to the Dairy Herd Improvement Association," he says. "I've weeded out the poor cows every year, and almost from the first I've had the high herd in Boone County. We've fed balanced rations for 10 years and have had the best of alfalfa hay."

Five Bureau Chiefs Report

Five bureau chiefs of USDA, in their annual reports to the Secretary gave examples of how U. S. D. A. workers are helping farmers to produce for victory.

● Dr. John R. Mohler, Chief of BAI, described experiments in pork production which showed that the intermediate type of hog excels the others in meeting Food for Freedom demands. During the year BAI continued its National Poultry Improvement Plan, never so vital as now, in cooperation with 44 States and issued, for the first time, a directory of U. S. Register of Merit sires and dams to encourage the poultrymen to select breeding birds on the basis of family performance. Tuberculosis of cattle has been practically wiped out and Bang's disease is being fought aggressively everywhere.

● Chief C. W. Kitchen of the AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE reported the completion of special surveys on supplies of vegetable seed and the capacity of commercial grain-storage establishments. Surveys are in progress of cold-storage plants, milk-product factories, and canneries. More than 600,000 voluntary farm reporters and about 200,000 nonfarm reporters cooperated in over 500 separate national

reports and over 5,000 State reports. These statistics covered the production and value of crops and livestock, farm labor and wages, prices received and paid by farmers, price indexes, and ratios. AMS statisticians worked closely with USDA State War Boards in one of the vast, behind-the-scenes jobs of the war—the quick, accurate figuring of the production goals. AMS men have inspected the food bought for the armed forces, for shipment abroad under lease, and by the Red Cross for distribution to public-aid families and in school lunches at home, and for stabilization reserves. Slightly more than half of the broadcasting stations in the country now use farm market reports regularly. Many such programs are primarily to help city folks obtain good buys. (See the Wickard-Henderson statement on page 1.)

● A few nuggets from the gold mine of useful research reported by Dr. Henry G. Knight, Chief of the BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY AND ENGINEERING: Improved dehydration of vegetables (which saves shipping space); the protection of sandbags against rotting; the use of baled cotton to stop bullets; improvement of the keeping quality of dried egg albumen (by means of controlled fermentation); quantity production of satisfactory crystallized sugar from sorghum cane; improvements in tung oil extraction (now hard to import because of war); storage tests on grains and soybeans (which showed they keep better underground); economical wattage and arrangements of lights for dairy barns—ordinary 6-watt bulbs back of every fourth cow, those of one row staggered with the opposite row; a new sugar beet planter which requires less seed and cuts thinning cost; the use of water to keep the soil from sticking to plows; a labor saving of 32 percent by preparing the seedbed for corn with a subsoil lister attachment instead of a plow.

● The farm lands of the United States after 10 years of conservation can stand the strain, said H. H. Bennett, Chief of the SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE. If conservation methods are followed, farmers can produce enough food and fibre to win the war without injuring the soil or repeating the disastrous plow-up of the first World War period.

By the close of the fiscal year 1941 farmers in 38 States had organized 653 districts embracing 382 million acres—a large proportion of the 530 million acres available for crops. Districts are operated by farmers under State Laws, with assistance from SCS and other conservation agencies of the Department in

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developing farm conservation plans and getting erosion control practices started. (All SCS plans now stress FFF production and conservation, too.)

● The Department's service to farmers and the Nation must extend in space around the world, and in time far beyond the present. Director Leslie A. Wheeler of the OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS reported that a threefold attack on the world-wide agricultural problem is being organized: First, to coordinate lease-lend and other agricultural trade activities; second, to strengthen Inter-American relations for hemisphere defense and provide new sources to meet vital shortages; and third, to plan for post-war food and agricultural relief and reconstruction abroad so as to conserve and restore as large a part of world trade in farm products as possible for the United States. Because there is hunger in Europe and Asia now and there may be starvation when the war is over, plans are shaping now to establish agencies for the speedy distribution of food. Special attention is being given to orderly post-war marketing of accumulated surpluses of wheat, cotton, coffee, tobacco, and other products by means of international agreements aimed at a fair distribution of the world market among the exporting nations. The aim is to help European agriculture to produce more of the things it can produce to better advantage, and that the people of central Europe need, and to resume imports of wheat, feed grain, and other staple products from the exporting nations.

But to resume exporting after the war, we must also resume importing, his report stated. Otherwise foreign markets cannot secure the dollars with which to buy our surpluses. (In other words, "Let's don't make that mistake again.")

Food for Freedom

● In California, a "feed wheat" program has been launched to convert CCC wheat in the State's somewhat overcrowded ever-normal granary into more meat, milk, and eggs.

● The Food for Freedom train, on its way over the Denver and Rio Grande lines, shows a movie, "The Farm Front" in the first car. The second car has a livestock exhibit and the other five cars carry dairy, poultry, nutrition, fruit, vegetable, farm garden, and potato displays; and exhibits on pastures, irrigation, farm management, soil fertility, and marketing of perishable products. In North Dakota, railroads may be asked to organize a similar special train.

● C. L. Smith, Washington County, Ark., agent, writes that "we are proceeding on the basis that the hens and milk cows, particularly in our county, do not know their bosses have signed them up in the Food for Freedom program, so the owners will have to be reminded



Walt Disney designed this emblem, the American eagle on guard above a cargo ship, to identify United States food products wherever they are sent throughout the world. It will be available for voluntary use by packers and is expected to become a familiar part of the labels on pantry shelves in many countries, including our own.

often until our goals are reached." He is using neighborhood meetings, local radio and press, special letters, leaflets, and individual letters to key farmers in the county.

● In each Minnesota county, the county agent, working with his USDA War Board, drew up a list of farm men and women competent to serve as local leaders in the fields of poultry, dairy-ing, and swine. Two to five leaders, with an AAA committeeman as organizer, were drafted in each township for each of the three subjects. Next, the county agents invited the township leaders to county-wide training meetings and demon-strations led by specialists. Then the township leaders went back to hold local meetings, of which 5,000 will have been held in Minnesota by spring. Other agencies helped to the limit. Vocational agriculture teachers took to the road to assist the local leaders. FSA super-visors carried the story to many families, especially on the smaller farms on back roads. The SCS, which had called a whole series of local meetings in one area for its own purposes, turned them largely over to Food for Freedom presentations.

Victory Pigs

In the hog-and-hominy section of south Georgia, each farmer selects a pig and names him Victory. Then he gives special attention to feeding until Victory is a nice, big, fat, and juicy porker. When there is a lot of Victo-ries, the farmers hold an auction, using Defense bonds and stamps instead of currency as a medium of ex-change. The plan was thought up by members of the Quitman Farm Production Credit Corporation.

● In New Jersey, a 4-H Victory Corps is being organized. Volunteers may raise chickens, hogs, dairy, and beef cattle, milk goats, cultivate a garden, learn first aid, can vegetables and fruits, repair farm machinery, re-model clothing, and do other farm work and necessary tasks. Enrollment is open to all young people.

● In Mississippi, \$1,000 is being offered in prizes in an FFF contest sponsored by the War Board and the Chilean Nitrate Educational Bureau. "To encourage the production of foods needed by our civilian population, our armed forces, and our allies in the war." Any farm family in the State having submitted a 1942 farm sheet is eligible. The aim of each contestant is to reach or exceed the goal set up in the farm sheet and to submit a written report on What My Farm Has Done in 1942 to Supply Food for Freedom.

● In Utah the FOREST SERVICE reported that livestock men (who graze their herds on national-forest range pasture) are planning to meet their goals for beef, mutton, and wool with existing flocks and herds by eliminat-ing colds, by better breeding practices, and by improved management of range lands.

Cheese and Boxes

The BUREAU OF DAIRY INDUS-TRY suggests that American cheddar manufacturers can help furnish more cheese by grading all milk for quality and pasteurizing it, in order to control the making process better than they can do it with raw milk. Lend-lease re-quirements call for cheese of at least U. S. No. 1 grade. Lower grades may not hold up long enough in storage or transit. AMS reports indicate that about 15 percent of the cheese offered for Government purchase is rejected.

Another lend-lease cheese problem is boxes. Ordinary boxes are not strong enough for the ocean trip. SURPLUS M A R K E T I N G A D M I N I S T R A T I O N asked the Forest Products Laboratory to develop a box at least 5 times as strong as usual. T. A. Carlson, Forest Service senior engineer, reported on the radio last month that they had de-veloped a box, after the style of the familiar Wisconsin round cheese box, which uses only 30 percent more lumber but is 5 to 10 times as strong. Details on request from the Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wis.

Coops

In the last month, some 30,000 small farmers in Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, and Alabama have obtained the services of veterinarians by forming cooperative associations, generally similar to the cooperative county health plans for the families themselves which FSA pioneered some years ago. Every farmer pays a sum into the association pool, which pays the veterinarians for their services.

A large-scale beef and dairy enter-prise is to be set up by 45 Nevada farmers with FSA financial assistance. The project will develop a 10,500-acre tract on one of the oldest water rights

in Nevada. The association will buy the land and lease it to individual members. Rentals are expected ultimately to amortize the association's loan from the Government. A farm manager will supervise the project.

Conserving Materials

Sacks

A critical shortage of sacks was reported from California. AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION committeemen in California believed that farmers in that State must shift at once to methods of handling grain, potatoes, and beans in bulk wherever possible. In Nevada, a salvage campaign is planned for wool bags.

Rubber

A BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS study, Family Expenditures for Automobiles and Other Transportation, shows that nine-tenths of the money spent by farm families in every part of the country for transportation has gone into automobile travel.

Looking ahead to the time when farmers will have serious trouble in getting to meetings, an Indiana county agent has submitted a suggestion for a relay system. In his county 170 local leaders are kept informed and each has the responsibility of keeping 10 of his neighbors informed too.

J. A. Dilts, agricultural engineer at Oklahoma A. & M. College, warns that slipping is the only cause of tread wear on tractor tires. "It doesn't hurt a tractor tire to carry weight, provided proper inflation pressures are maintained; it only hurts it to slip." Wheel slippage may be cut down by using wheel weights when the tractor is used for heavy drawbar work.

Machinery and Scrap Iron

In Idaho implement dealers reported that orders for repair parts have increased from 40 to 300 percent. District farm machinery clinics were to begin February 9; machinery clinics in each county will follow.

In Mississippi repair shops are being listed as to kind of repairs and number of men employed there so the different kinds of work in the Farm Machinery Repair Campaign can be handled to the best advantage.

Publicity schemes used in the machinery repair and scrap-collection campaign in Nebraska included notices sent out with bank statements, discussion at public schools, and "comments by auctioneers."

In several States the use of windshield stickers was suggested: "I have repaired my machinery—have you?"

In Kentucky about 250 out-of-school youth training centers have been opened by the Vocational Agriculture Department, of which 150 are already at work on machinery repairs.

In Kansas service men will be furnished by implement companies or dealers to help in farm machinery repair schools.

The Oregon scrap-iron campaign is in high gear, with some counties staging direct collection drives through the Future Farmers of America.

Farm Labor

In Indiana, USDA War Board members, worried over the labor outlook, suggested that as peeling tomatoes is a big job in canning, women who do not need the income might help with this war job instead of knitting socks and sweaters. The postponing of school for a short period was suggested, in order to free school busses to carry cannery workers.

• The general average of farm wage rates on January 1 was the highest since April 1930.

Consumers

In Oregon and New York, the SMA is cooperating with the War Boards in a State-wide campaign for Food for Freedom displays in grocery stores. Here is one direct way of explaining to the food-buying public what it is all about.

Gardens

In Oregon, a campaign was launched jointly by the War Board, the Civilian Defense Council, and the Extension Service to increase the number of farm and home gardens by 16,000. City folks with facilities and experience that give them a chance at success are included.



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EDITOR, A. T. ROBERTSON.

• In Utah the Future Farmers of America are adding a garden project for each member.

• The Kentucky War Board believes that landlords should be asked to insist that tenants plant plenty of war gardens.

Income

As cash farm income rises to the highest point since 1929, as many as 1 million farmers may have to pay a Federal income tax—many for the first time. BAE and Extension Service have prepared a mimeographed leaflet, "Farm Bookkeeping and the Federal Income Tax," to help farmers understand some of the requirements for making tax returns.

AAA Program Changes

Some day there'll be time to tell the full story of how AAA workers, by quick action in Washington and the field, have changed the program at many points to keep pace with, or anticipate, the swift tide of war. Changes in the 1942 program announced this month included authority to furnish farmers soybean and castor bean seeds in certain limited areas, a provision for full payment on peanut acreage allotments only if at least 80 percent of the allotment is planted and a similar 80 percent provision for potatoes. Another change, to encourage rice production, provided that 10 times the payment rate be deducted for each acre by which the rice acreage planted is less than the allotment. The maximum deduction is limited to the maximum rice payment for the farm. Rye was added to the list of crops which qualify for meeting minimum soil-conserving acreage requirements. More flexibility is given the wheat and corn allotment regulations by new provisions that (1) if wheat acreage totally destroyed by causes beyond the control of the grower is replaced, the original acreage will not be counted as planted to wheat and (2) corn may be planted on any farm up to 130 percent of the allotment without deduction in payments other than that on corn.

Long-Staple Cotton

A drive to promote long-staple cotton (used, instead of silk, to make parachutes, for the cell structure of balloons, and other military purposes) is getting underway throughout the South. CCC upped its loan rate on upland long-staple to make it more attractive. AAA committeemen, extension agents, and others prepared to pass the word along to growers that long-staple is urgently needed. No change in acreage allotments will be necessary as the drive is to get more long-staple grown in place of short-staple. Sea-island cotton is now being grown in about all the places where it will grow, but American Egyptian (developed by BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY scientists and widely grown in the irrigated sections of the Southwest) is being used extensively to meet war needs and farmers are urged to increase its production.

U S D A



March 6, 1942, Volume I, Number 3

Where Do You Come In? (SEE ALSO PAGE 4)

This still from "Democracy in Action," AAA movie to be released soon, shows the climax of a job to which you have contributed. Work done in thousands of scattered offices by Department stenographers, file clerks, research workers, conservationists, rehabilitation supervisors, inspectors, accountants, veterinarians, messengers, administrators, and their assistants of all ranks in all bureaus went into delivery of this cheese to the docks for shipment to England.

The farmers who promised their AAA committeemen to increase production of the milk to make the dairy products here being loaded were aided in production by Extension and encouraged by AMS and BAE reports on the prices supported by SMA buying for lend-lease and domestic distribution. Credit from FCA or FSA helped to buy the feed and the herds, from stock improved by BAI. The pasture was improved by AAA lime, the very grass made better by BPI research and guarded from insects by BE&PQ, while SCS stabilized the soil and water supply. The cows also fed richly on grains and mill feeds (the wheat insured by FCIC and the grains protected against unfair speculation by CEA) released for feeding by CCC from the Ever-Normal Granary. The feed was stored safely in a barn of BACE design. The milk was perhaps cooled by current from REA lines. The family kept back a part for home use on advice of BHE. Part was made, thanks to BDI research, into superior cheese, of a kind which OFAR had reported acceptable to British needs. Then AMS graded it; SMA bought it; and Forest Service designed stronger wooden boxes for the sea voyage. Take over, Merchant Marine and Navy.

Priorities on Transfers

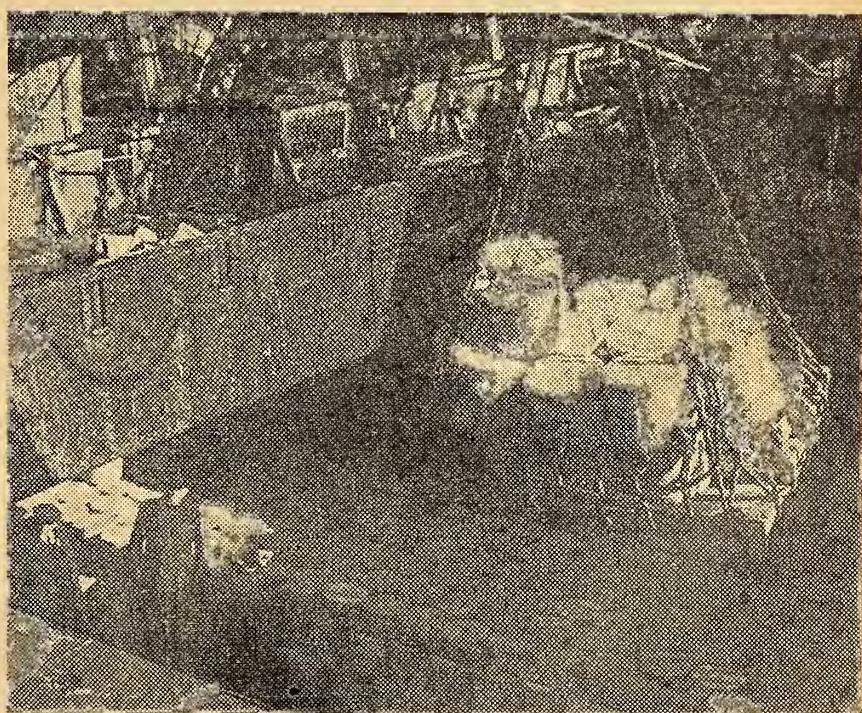
USDA units, like all others in the Government, have now been ranked in five priority classifications to speed up personnel transfers for war work: I, SMA (lend-lease); II, (none); III, Office of Secretary (except as listed below) OFAR, OADR, FS (general ad-

ministration, protection and management of national forests, forest-fire fighting, fire cooperation, emergency fire control, forest products), AAA, CCC, BACE; IV, BAE, BDI, FS (roads and trails) REA; V, Office of Secretary (Personnel, Budget & Finance, LUC, general operations), Offices of Solicitor, Information, Experiment Stations, Library, Extension, BAI, BPI, BEPQ, AMS, BHE, CEA, SCS, SMA (except lend-lease), FCIC, FSA, Beltsville, FCA, flood control projects, FS (except previously listed).

Only the employee's consent is now needed for his transfer from a lower class to a higher. But T. Roy Reid, Director of Personnel, reminds all USDA workers: "Even in General MacArthur's fighting Army some must be stationed behind the front. Work done in USDA offices in Class V emphatically does help to win the war."

The British are now getting from us about 25 percent of their protein foods. Even if we deliver the full amount promised for 1942, the British will still be on short rations. (They are doing everything humanly possible to supply their own needs. More land is now under the plow in England than ever in her modern history. She began the war with 9 million acres of plowed land, and will have increased it to 13 million acres, or half again as much, by this coming spring.)

Our food is also going to other countries—where, and how much, are military secrets. But it's going where it's needed to win the war; regardless of the cost in lives and treasure. This is the fearful urgency behind the spring work on 6 million big and little farms, behind the jangling telephones and the mounting piles of paper work in Department offices. This is our job.



MEN AT WORK

Food for Freedom

Yankees

In New England, mighty stronghold of individualism, some farmers are leading the country in pooling their resources for war.

Because of the labor shortage three groups of farmers in Coos County, N. H., bought grain combines last spring to harvest their own oats cooperatively. The scheme originated when the farmers, with the aid of FSA supervisors Norman E. Davis and John C. Raynes, looked about for a crop to grow in rotation with hay. They decided to raise grain, plowing under the straw to improve the soil, and seeding the hayfield with a grain "nurse crop." Under the plan, the manager of the association operates the machine at all times. The charge per acre has been set at \$5, although farmers with a small acreage a long ways from town are charged \$6. This price is lower than the usual cost for separate cutting and threshing of grain.

• In each Massachusetts county, lists of "Spare Machinery for Sale or Exchange" are being compiled and made available to farmers through the county agent's office.

Indians

The Chippewa tribe in Michigan have passed their own declaration of war. Braves will join the armed forces, and the older men and their families will increase production of vital foods. The Government has purchased 2,500 acres to be added to tribal lands, and allocated \$6,000 for the purchase of seeds, fertilizer, and tractor equipment.

Cajuns

Cajun families, descendants of the Acadian exiles, who used to lease trapping lands in St. Bernard Parish, La., may soon own their homes, lands, and boats outright. Through FSA they borrowed half a million dollars and bought new muskrat lands 3 years ago. Today 50 of the 186 families have paid up their shares in full. Now the Cajun trappers also raise Food for Freedom. Each family this year got 100 baby chicks, built homemade lamp brooders and chicken houses.

Negroes

Thirty-five years ago, Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson appointed the first Negro demonstration agent, T. M. Campbell. One month later he appointed the second, J. B. Pierce. These two men are still on the job. Negro extension work now employs 555 agents and has a budget of more than 1 million dollars of Federal, State, and county funds. More than 338,000 Negro farm families take part, and 187,500 Negro boys and girls belong to 4-H Clubs. All are raising more food and feed at home and all the pork, dairy, and poultry which the small farm can produce.

Thus they more than repay their country for its investment.

And All of Us

In Utah, the State Department of Agriculture and the State War Board are planning to correlate their programs in the interest of FFF. In Idaho, groceryman-farmer dinners were held last month by the War Board. (This may be one way of getting the story across to consumers.) In California, dairy and poultry farmers were rushing to buy feed wheat from the Northwest recently released by CCC.

• The WPB has promised bee producers enough sugar to keep their bees alive. The FSA is helping small farmers conserve sugar by producing more honey, more maple sugar, and more of the sorghum from the old-time sirup mill, powered by a mule.

• This is how they do it in Minnesota: Each county agent, working with his USDA War Board, listed competent farm men and women as local leaders in producing poultry, dairy, and swine, and drafted two to five leaders, with an AAA committeeman as organizer, in each township for each of the three subjects. They attended county-wide training meetings and demonstrations led by specialists. Then they went back to hold local meetings, of which 5,000 will have been held in Minnesota by spring. Vocational agriculture teachers assist the local leaders. FSA supervisors carried the story to the smaller farms on back roads.

Consumers Must Help Too

The Secretary continues to tell the public what he told Department employees in the first issue of USDA: "The per capita production of food in 1942 will be the greatest in history, but there is a tremendous and compelling demand for food by our Allies. The delivery of food to our Allies has been limited by shipping space. As the bridge of ships grows wider, more food will go to our fighting Allies. We may have to cut down on our per capita consumption of food in America and shift our food habits."

A reporter asked the Secretary if he would hazard a guess about the possibility of food rationing. The Secretary replied: "I wouldn't try to predict anything these days."

Farm Labor

All USDA employees who know people looking for work or for workers should direct them to the nearest public employment office. (Look it up now, if you don't know it.) In particular, the reinforced U. S. Employment Service is coming to the aid of agriculture. By planting time 1,500 full-time offices will have farm placement services with a

USDA is for all employees of the Department of Agriculture. As the edition is limited, please pass this copy on to others.

trained man in charge. In addition, many seasonal offices will help direct the flow of transient labor. In deciding where to put seasonal offices, USES will call on statisticians of the AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE, on labor subcommittees of the agricultural planning committees, and on the USDA War Boards.

USES is working with USDA on the whole job. To give the employment offices the inside track on where men are needed and how many, AMS field statisticians, as fast as they compile the current figures on farm labor, will supply them to USES offices for confidential use. On the east coast, where FSA is building migratory labor camps, the USES will have offices like those in the FSA camps in the West.

• The Secretary has asked State and county USDA War Boards to provide information when requested by State Selective Service Headquarters and local S. S. boards to assist them in classifying farm registrants. War Boards will not ask deferment or intervene for individuals but will supply factual data.

• If there is a "Women's Land Army," concerning which Secretary of Labor Perkins has conferred with Secretary Wickard, it will be the kind farm people want. As the plans are shaping up now, farmerettes will be sent out only on request of the farmers to their local public employment offices, only after they are trained, and then only under the supervision of a responsible agency such as a college or Y. W. C. A.

• The folks in Woodburn, Oreg., who need help to harvest the berries and canning vegetables in that part of the fertile Willamette Valley, have organized a community labor committee. A house-to-house survey listed every available pair of hands. Schools will dismiss when more help is needed. A day nursery will allow mothers to leave their children and help with the harvest.

• The California USDA War Board is trying to find out where Japanese and other aliens evacuated from strategic areas can best be used as farm labor. The labor subcommittees of agricultural planning committees are helping.

Movies

"Democracy in Action," from which a shot is shown on page 1, is one of three new AAA movies. "The Farm Front" has already been widely shown. "The Land," considered at previews one of the most stirring Government films, will be distributed in March through the AAA committees.

And a new set-up for making and distributing Department-wide war movies to speed the food-production job is taking shape. The various Department movie experts will pool their talents and resources on five new films to be distributed through circuits set up by the USDA War Boards throughout the country.

Evans to Federal Reserve

"Spike" Evans, Agricultural Adjustment and Conservation Administrator, has been nominated by President Roosevelt to fill the post as Governor of the

Federal Reserve System left vacant by Chester Davis.

Appleby to England

Paul Appleby, Under Secretary of Agriculture, is returning to England to expedite lend-lease food shipments on that side.

Salvage and Repair

Scrap and More Scrap

Department workers, even those remote from the farms, are vitally concerned with the collection of scrap iron. This drive, directed in the rural districts by the USDA State and County War Boards, is part of a greater campaign to salvage from farms and homes materials needed to win the war—paper, rubber, burlap bags, and others which will come later. State Salvage Committees are being rapidly formed, to which each USDA War Board is to name one member.

Department workers on War Boards already know their job in scrap collection. The rest of us can help, too. If you have an old furnace grate in your cellar, call the junkman now—or some charity which earns money by collecting scrap. It will help, too, if everybody in the Department understands the answers to some of the questions people ask.

First, the need is real. On American farms alone there is enough scrap iron and steel, if used together with other materials, to make more than twice as many battleships as there are in the world today, or enough 2,000-pound bombs to drop 3 per minute from Flying Fortresses incessantly for over 3 years. But the war-production program may face disaster while scrap rusts in haystacks and cellars.

The mounting junk piles all over the country have given rise to other questions. In some cases, dealers are waiting for the collection to end before securing transportation, but the War Production Board is not giving dealers a chance to hoard it. The Department has been asked to report any accumulation of scrap in dealers' yards beyond the inventory normally required for processing. Prices to farmers must vary with local costs of transportation and handling. The OPA has set only maximum prices for scrap iron. While USDA War Boards can give an idea of the price which might be expected in each locality, the main appeal is to patriotism.

Wallowa County, Oreg., has reported 15 carloads collected so far. The Idaho State Chamber of Commerce will support the machinery-repair and scrap-collection campaigns. About a quarter of available scrap in the State has been sold.

• Another big source of old iron and steel, of course, is the automobile graveyards, of which USDA War Boards are helping to make a canvass.

Machinery Repair

The farm-machinery-repair campaign won't be over until the war is won and farmers once more can buy all the new machines they need. Last month the WPB amended its Repair and Maintenance Order P-100 to provide an A-10 rating for necessary repair materials,

including nuts and bolts and major repair parts. The farmer who repairs his own machines or the repairman may take advantage of the order by signing his name to a form stamped or printed on the purchase order obtained from the supplier.

• The BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY AND ENGINEERING has a hunch that the cross-roads garage, as it finds auto work disappearing, will replace the old village smithy in fixing other metal things which will be increasingly scarce—hinges, latches, braces, rings, etc., especially if it has a forge.

Thick Now

The new WPB order rationing sales of retreaded or recapped tires sets up two lists of eligibles, A and B. List B certificates will be issued only during the last several days of each month, and then only if any retreads are left over after A's requirements are met. Farm tractors and other rubber-tired implements, and trucks carrying farm products to market (but not to the ultimate consumer) are on List A. USDA employees will find their cars, if necessary for official business, on List B. Thus previous instructions to think now what you'll do when the tires are gone hold good.

Tin

The WPB has ordered a sharp cut in tin cans. Sizes are being standardized and many farm products will go into large sized cans only.

But there will be plenty of tin cans for home canning.

Don't Make Soap

Housewives have been specifically asked not to make their own soap. Soap may be regarded as a byproduct of glycerine, vitally needed to make explosives. There may soon be a campaign to salvage food fats, grease, lubricants, and table scraps and extract glycerine from them.

Civilian Defense

Few Department workers, scrambling to learn first aid and how to put out incendiaries, realize how much they have already helped civilian defense



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through their daily work which has brought closer together 6 million scattered country homes.

The Secretary has given Extension the job of organizing rural America for defense against destructive fires and for certain other phases of civilian defense among farm people, in cooperation with State and county defense councils. The Office of Civilian Defense is undertaking this task in cities and towns of more than 2,000 persons, and the Forest Service is responsible for protecting the forests.

In California, Extension plans neighborhood fire companies, using local equipment. California Extension laboratories test blackout materials, county agents hold daytime meetings on blackout of dairy barns, while home demonstration agents help blackout farm homes some of which have already heard the sound of enemy gunfire.

On the east coast as well, Extension is helping farm and home blackouts. In Massachusetts, the USDA War Board is planning to survey the hand and power sprayers on farms to fight fires.

• For emergency use, the Forest Service has listed its organization camps. They can shelter some 34,000, in permanent buildings with mess halls and kitchens. Another 300,000-400,000 could tent on forest campgrounds which have sanitary facilities, water, and fireplaces.

AAA Program Changes

Farmers may understand their spring wheat acreage in 1942 in order to grow increased acreages of war crops such as flaxseed, soybeans, peanuts, (for oil), castor beans, sugar beets, dry field peas, dry beans, canning peas, canning tomatoes, fiber flax and hemp. At least a 10 percent increase over 1941 production is called for in the case of each of these.

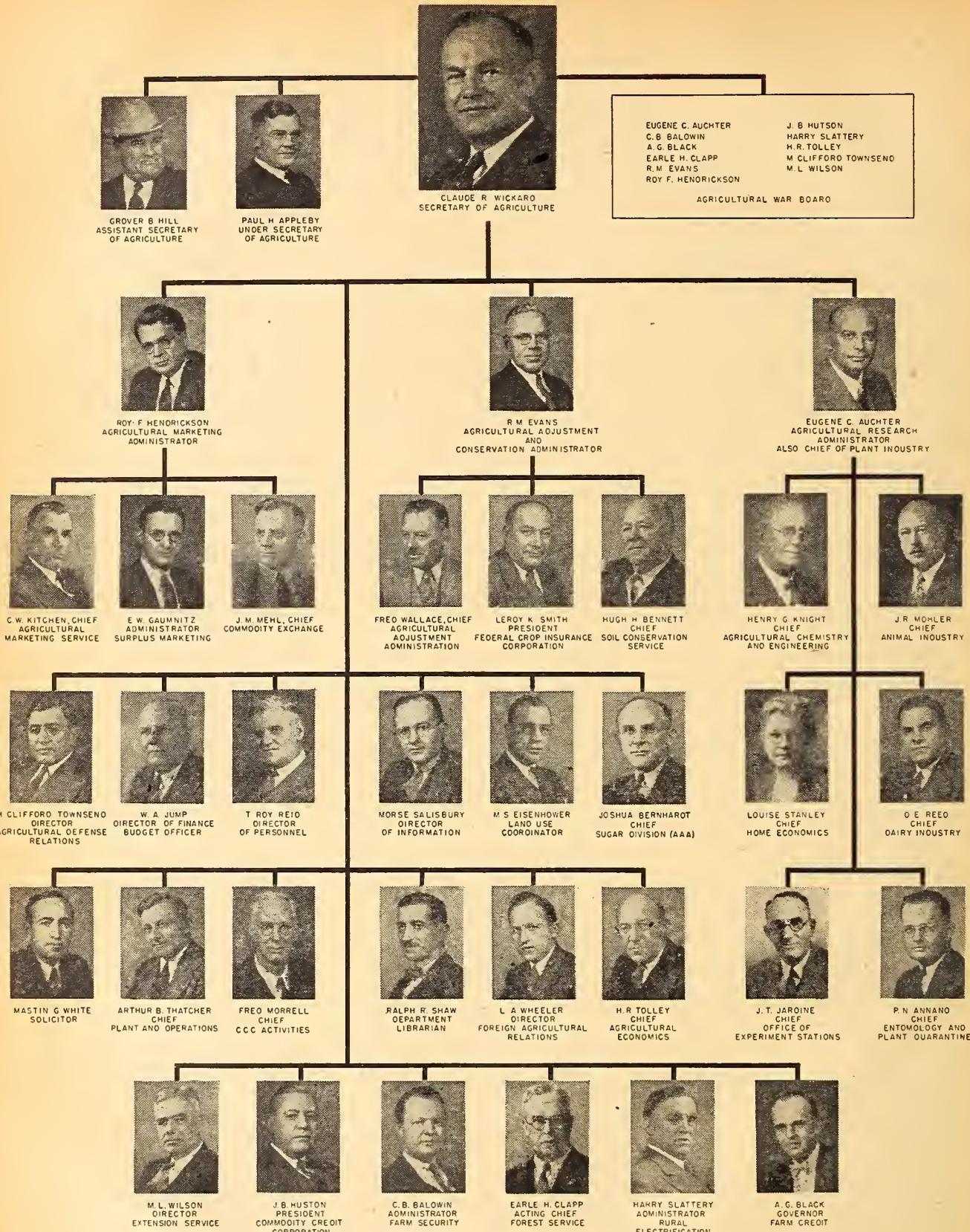
Fred S. Wallace, AAA Chief, has announced an amendment which adds to the list of crops and land uses which can meet the "Soil-building requirement", grasses and legumes seeded with flax, peas or small grain. Another amendment, directed at the peanut-growing areas where the cooperators are required to devote at least 25 percent of their cropland to erosion-resisting crops, provides that peanuts grown for oil may qualify up to half of the requirements.

• SMA is rapidly shaping plans to make price-supporting purchases of eggs at designated warehouses in Southern States. War Boards will have full information.

Tune In Monday Night

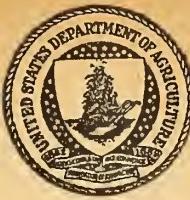
President Roosevelt, Vice-President Wallace and Secretary of Agriculture Wickard broadcast Monday, March 9, from 9:45 to 10 p. m. E. W. T. over all networks. They will be heard, not only by the radio audience generally, but by scores of thousands of farmers at Farm Day dinners observing the ninth anniversary of the meeting of farm leaders which led to the drafting of legislation authorizing the present farm programs.

Organization of the United States Department of Agriculture for WAR EFFORT



After you find your chief, can you figure out (1) why he is grouped with certain others in the new organization (2) how it helps American agriculture meet the needs of the United Nations and (3) where you come in?

U S D A



March 20, 1942, Volume I, Number 4

EATING RIGHT

In wartime the Department's 80,000 workers are expected by their consumer friends to know the answers. Previous issues of USDA have discussed the Department's belief that farm prices should be used as a tool to obtain needed production, and have explained our share in the price-control job. USDA workers also should know that the Department is intensifying its efforts to help America set a good table to meet the strain of war.

Information and Research

Consumer information is available at many points, ranging from Cabinet offices to the corner grocers.

Information also goes direct from the Department to the public. Federal market news reporters broadcast good food buys on the local markets daily in more than 30 cities. In Chicago, the broadcasts are in several foreign languages. Each Saturday at 12:15 p.m., E. W. T., the NBC network carries Consumer Time. Hundreds of local stations broadcast Home-Makers Chats, and the National Farm and Home Hour carries an average of one consumer program a week, usually on Thursday (12:30 p.m., E. W. T., Blue Network).

The Department's consumer research agency, the Bureau of Home Economics, answers a rising tide of letters from housewives. Within a week following a recent radio talk on sugar substitutes by BHE's Ruth Van Deman, 11,525 letters were received. Circulation of Farmers Bulletins prepared by BHE rose during the fiscal year 1941 to 4,326,391, from 2,845,920 in 1940, and is still rising. This includes both paid and free distribution. Since July 1, 32,000 nutrition pamphlets and 120,000 canning leaflets have been distributed.

The Consumer's Guide, published by the Consumers Counsel of Agricultural Marketing Administration is restricted to a free distribution of 150,000 copies per issue. It also has a paid circulation (5 cents a copy, \$0.50 a year) that is rapidly rising. The March 1 issue, of which a few copies are still available, is all about Victory Gardens.

Spades Are Trumps

These nights the county agent, home demonstration agents, FSA supervisors

and home supervisors, like the vocational agriculture teachers and State college specialists, get home late and tired from helping folks plan gardens, as the annual fever is fanned by the urge to help win the war. The Department encourages all those who should try, which means:

All farmers. Folks who live on the edge of town and have good land that they know how or can learn to work. City people with back yards full of cinders, no. But they can help to plan and work in a community, school, church, or lodge garden, if good land is available.

(In Wisconsin, volunteer workers supplied with enrollment cards, nutrition calendar and Garden Guides are canvassing practically all farm families and those in small towns, asking each to sign a card stating "I will grow a Victory Garden.")

Justly or not, almost any Department worker is expected by his neighbors to know something about gardening. He ought to know what services are available in his own community, and the sort of information available from the State college and from Washington. If he has good land available, he can set an example.

Victuals for Victory

Gardens help to set a better wartime table while saving truck and rail transportation for other uses. But many who need better food can't hope for a garden. Therefore, the AMA continues three direct-action programs authorized by Congress: Direct purchase and distribution to public-aid families (now geared in with lend-lease purchases); the Food Stamp Plan; and the School Lunch and Penny Milk programs, in cooperation with the WPA and civic groups. These programs build stronger Americans to work and fight and by keeping up the machinery to support the market, they encourage farmers to produce abundantly without fear of the future.

• Incidentally, the school-lunch program, as an example of mass feeding of more than 5 million youngsters, may have great value in civilian defense. In New York City, for example, the central school-lunch kitchen in Long Island City, manned by WPA workers, now prepares 90,000 lunches a day. As early as 4:30 a.m., long conveyor belts are bringing in baskets of AMA apples, tagged for a certain truck and school. On the kitchen floor, white-coated at-

tendants are stirring and ladling great pails of soup which are carried by a roller-conveyor through the kitchen to the loading platform. Other workers are opening honey cans. On the second floor 120 WPA workers are spreading 110,000 sandwiches daily. Soon the trucks loaded with apples, soup and sandwiches shove off for the schools, settlement houses, nurseries, playgrounds, and cafeterias. When the lunch bell rings the school kids load their trays and also receive a half-pint of Penny Milk. The job has developed many special techniques and tools, of which the newest, designed by Dr. Chatfield of the New York Board of Education, is a working model for a sandwich-spreading machine which he believes can spread 1,000 sandwiches in a few minutes.

• The latest word is that consumers can help the family pocketbook and the Nation's war effort by using the foods which are most plentiful and conserving supplies of the scarcer foods for feeding the AEF's and our Allies abroad. For example, currently families in upper income brackets can shift their purchases and eat more poultry, especially broilers to replace pork. Because of the heavy broiler output, the price of young chickens has been lowered relative to the price of hens, while British demands for pork products are very heavy and it will take some time yet for the expanded hog production to reach the market. Families looking for an economical main dish can shift to dried beans, a good source of protein which costs only about a fourth as much as beef, pork and eggs. Supplies of dried beans are large. (Tin for canned beans is cut by WPB order.)

Tolley to OPA

Howard Tolley, Chief of BAE, has been loaned part time for two months to the Office of Price Administration to head up their Food and Apparel Division, which includes also fertilizer and farm machinery.

Each reader of USDA will shortly receive an important public document, Divide and Conquer, prepared by the Office of Facts and Figures. Secretary Wickard requests that you read it carefully and pass it on to others. It contains information vital to you and all Americans.

MEN AT WORK

Price Ceilings

Price-control measures of interest to USDA workers and farmers recently taken by OPA include action to hold down prices of fertilizer on all sales down to a minimum of 250 lbs.; farm machinery and parts; used egg cases; most canned fruits and vegetables (but not retail sales); dressed hogs and wholesale pork cuts; mercurial compounds (germicides and insecticides); domestic shorn wool (on a clean basis only, not grease wool at the farm.) State and county USDA War Boards have the details in each case.

Rubber

As soon as the President signed the Guayule Rubber Production Act early this month Secretary Wickard instructed the Forest Service and the Bureau of Plant Industry to start work. The law limits field plantings to 75,000 acres, about all that can be done by the spring of 1943 with the seed available, but once the project is underway it can be expanded. The act authorizes the Department to buy out the Intercontinental Rubber Company's guayule seed supplies, processes and facilities at Salinas, Calif., where there are 577 acres of growing shrubs, 4 years old or older, and a small factory. As guayule has never been profitable on a commercial scale in this country the project was kept going only on an experimental basis.

While best returns are obtained when the shrub is four to seven years old, plants can be taken earlier.

The Forest Service, chosen for the planting job because of its success in establishing 16,000 miles of shelterbelts on 22,000 farms in the Prairie States since 1935, has selected Regional Forester Evan W. Kelly, of Missoula, Mont., as field director and Paul Roberts, director of the shelterbelt project as associate. BPI will continue making essential technical investigations of guayule and the rubber-producing possibilities of other shrubs.

While guayule will supplement the extensive rubber plantings already made through Latin America and the synthetic industry under construction in this country, it does not affect the civilian's chance of getting new or re-treaded rubber tires. He'll be lucky to keep his old ones during the war.

Cotton Tires?

It did not take the engineers in BACE long to begin thinking about using cotton for tires. Thicknesses of impregnated cotton fabrics, fastened to the rims, might allow a limited amount of slow driving. Whether it's practical, is something else again, as BACE freely admits.

Civilian Defense

Instructed by Secretary Wickard, a Department committee headed by

Arthur B. Thatcher, Chief of Plant and Operations, is taking an inventory of all Department-owned airplanes, fire-fighting equipment, big power shovels, trucks, passenger cars, graders, scrapers, tractors, movable power plants on wheels, and other automotive equipment and arranging for the machines and their operators to aid civilian defense. All told, USDA owns approximately 30,000 pieces of automotive equipment, more than any other branch of the Government except the Army.

From Albuquerque, N. Mex., Floyd D. Matthews, SCS Assistant Regional Conservator, reports 73 men are being trained at the central repair shop. Under direction of Leslie E. Love, regional equipment supervisor, with the aid of Franc C. Norris, central repair shop foreman, the crews train nearly every night and Saturday afternoon after work, and have formed 11 mobile units named according to the duties each will perform at the call of local civilian defense authorities: Firefighting, demolition, repair and demolition (for heavy steel structures), automobile repair, water supply, ambulance, transportation, wrecking service for airplanes, electric generating, and pumping out flooded areas.

By mid-February some 1,300 Department employees were being trained for USDA's own civilian defense organization in all Washington buildings. The Department's actual danger spots are the laboratories containing certain chemicals or germ solutions which could be dangerous if messed up by bombardment. This problem is being studied and instructions will be issued soon.

New Names, New Jobs

Dillon S. Myer, Assistant Chief of S. C. S., Acting Administrator of the Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, succeeding R. M. Evans. Fred S. Wallace, AAA chief, Acting Assistant Administrator of the ACAA. . . . This month Marketing Administrator Henderson, in a novel and readable letter to his personnel, described the new set-up of AMA, whose major units are called Branches, under chiefs as follows: Purchase, H. C. Albin; Distribution, James D. LeCron; Transportation and Warehousing, William C. Crow; Commodity Exchange, J. M. Mehl; Dairy and Poultry, E. W. Gauknitz, Acting; Cotton, Carl H. Robinson; Tobacco, Charles E. Gage; Grain, Feed, and Seed, Edward J. Murphy; Livestock, Harry E. Reed; Fruit and Vegetable, Associate AMA Administrator C. W. Kitchen, Acting Chief. Besides the Branches, several Divisions will perform general management functions as follows: Personnel, Leland Barrows; Administrative Services, Fred J. Hughes; Marketing Reports, J. B. Hasselman, Acting; Audit, D. J. Harrell; Budget and Accounting, W. B. Robertson; and Investigations, Guy Hottel. The functions of Consumers Counsel (transferred to AMA from AAA) and of the Program Appraisal Division will be announced later. . . . This month Milton L. Eisenhower, former Land Use Coordinator and for



Miss Anne Whitman, Rubber Plant Investigations, BPI, holds two cultivated guayule shrubs, grown in California. A little more than 3 years old, the cells of their branching stems and roots hold about a pound of rubber. Guayule will not relieve the civilian rubber shortage, but will help to win the war.

a number of years Director of Information, became director of the new War Relocation Authority set up by the President. Among other jobs he will help with the relocation of California Japanese farmers. . . . Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, and Claude A. Barnett, director of the Associated Negro Press, have been named special assistants to the Secretary. They will help especially to ensure full participation of Negro farmers in the Food for Freedom campaign.

FOOD FOR FREEDOM

Volunteer Wheat

AAA has issued a ruling whereby farmers can make use of volunteer wheat this year, preferably for pasture and hay for livestock.

• Also, farmers are asking about soybeans and erosion. SCS technicians in every farming region know how, and are eager to help farmers to increase their soybean production without causing erosion.

• In Iowa, as in Minnesota, voluntary local leaders are to be trained for working among farmers in each community to help them attain their production goals.

Bunker Hill

Chances are there will be no shooting in this war at almost-flat Bunker Hill, Ill. But the farm people of Bunker Hill (population, 1,082) are fighting the production battle in a way to make their town worthy of its name.

To make more food available for England and the other United Nations,

Farmer Herman F. Dubbelde, of German descent, has increased his milk production fully 50 percent over what it was a year ago. Last year his herd of milk cows yielded an average of 9,000 pounds of milk a month. This year their output will pass 15,000 pounds. He is feeding 80 porkers for market, where last year he marketed only 40. He has increased his chicken flock from 200 to 300 birds.

When his son Victor recently enlisted in the Marines to fight the Axis, Mr. Dubbelde didn't take that as an excuse for slacking off production. He bought an electric milker to help take his son's place.

Another Bunker Hill farmer, likewise of German stock, is Louis Enke, who has already increased his milk production from 19,000 pounds a month last year to 24,000 pounds now. He has 7 more young heifers that will go into production in the spring. He is increasing his hogs from 24 last year to about 80 this year, and has ordered 400 pullets to step up egg production on the farm. Mr. Enke, too, has a son of draft age who will probably be in the armed forces before summer begins.

More pork and beef will come from nearby neighbors of English stock, the Moulton brothers. On their 618-acre farm the Moultons are feeding 150 head of cattle, compared with 89 a year ago. They expect to market around 375 hogs this year, 75 more than in 1941. To raise more wool and mutton the Moultons have 48 breeding ewes this year, compared with 42 a year ago.

SALVAGE AND REPAIR

Life and Death From Texas Farms

Life and death will be harvested this year from the vast farmlands of Texas, an empire larger than all of Nazi Germany. The crops now being planted in the ground will provide renewed life and strength to fight the Axis. And while boys from Texas fought the Japs in the Pacific, scrap iron from Texas farms, at first a trickle, began pouring in a mighty stream to make a harvest of death for the enemy. Stories such as these of what American farmers are doing are not only short-waved to Europe and Asia but will be scattered in leaflets over Axis nations and Axis-held territory.

In Childress County, Farmer Wilbur Williams had more than 10,000 pounds of scrap iron piled up in a heap. Dealers had been after him for years, but he had refused to sell, fearing (with reason) that some of the metal might find its way to the Aryans of the East. After Pearl Harbor, Mr. Williams called the junk dealer, borrowed an acetylene torch, walked over to a 1918 model Case tractor and began cutting it up for our soldiers to deliver to the Japs. (But farmers need not break up their scrap;

the war boards will arrange for the dealers to collect it.)

In Taylor County, Joe Higgins, as soon as he heard of the scrap-iron campaign began to dismantle a 10-ton 1919 model Moline tractor rusting among the weeds. He sold some 17,000 pounds of steel, castings, brass, and other metals, and salvaged 3,000 pounds of bolts, angle irons, I beams, etc., for future use. As he and his son, Orville, pitched the bits of old steel into the trucks, Joe wondered which of the rusty bolts might some day find its way into a gun fired by his second son, who is now in the Army.

Arthur A. Swenson, who came from Sweden when he was a small boy, is chairman of the Travis County USDA War Board which during January piled up a record of 512,000 pounds of scrap iron collected in 5 days enough to make more than a dozen 13-ton tanks for the Army. The War Board sent individual letters to most of the farmers in the county; radio and newspapers called on loyal citizens to act; the county superintendent and his staff visited all the schools and asked the children to help.

Fifteen cotton ginnings around Austin banded together to help gather iron. The ginnings offered to donate their services, weigh the metal the farmers brought in, and let the farmers unload their scrap in the gin yards. A big scrap-iron dealer offered to put up the cash for the ginnings to help pay the farmers and then send his trucks and cart the metal from the gin yards to the freight cars. It looked like the height of the ginning season as long lines of farm trucks, wagons, and trailers waited outside the cotton gins to unload their old hay rakes, worn-out discs and stoves.

• In a number of Utah counties, the scrap iron is pooled in central places where blacksmiths and mechanics can go over it to salvage usable parts for machinery repair. After this check-up, the scrap is made available to junk dealers to be moved to the steel mills.

In Summit County, the Lions Club made a farm-to-farm canvas on machinery repair. Tremonton, in Box Elder County, held a scrap-iron and machinery-repair parade last month. The streets were festooned with old hay rakes, binders, mowers, harvesters, and tractors.

• Other war agencies are beginning to see what farmers are up against in the farm-machinery shortage and are helping. But the New York State Defense Council is the first to shell out money for the purpose, allocating \$80,000 to the Extension Service for the farm-machinery program. Fifteen trucks have been purchased and 15 field men hired for work under supervision of the Department of Agricultural Engineering of the New York State College of Agriculture. The program is cooperative among the Extension Service, the vocational teachers, farm-implement dealers and repair shops, manufacturers, and other organizations. Day meetings are now being held and 5-day meetings are planned for the near future.

• If it has not yet dawned on any Department worker that he, as well as the farmer, has the obligation to save and repair the tools of his daily work the awakening will come soon. Word has gone out on 22 ways of saving paper—and still other ways are being considered. With new typewriter sales stopped by Mr. Henderson, typewriter repair, in USDA offices, will soon come to be the equivalent of machinery repair on the farms.

• The President has asked all Federal offices in Washington and the field to economize to the utmost on the use of electricity for all purposes. Watch your lighting, etc.

• Save your antifreeze for use next winter.

MANAGEMENT COLUMN

Training

USDA, like other Departments of the Government, finds the turn-over increasingly rapid as the war calls more men. Therefore the Department committee on improvement of supervision, with the Office of Personnel, has outlined a plan for quick training of new USDA workers. The plan follows five basic steps: Making the new employee acquainted with his surroundings, interested in the job, and anxious to learn; making him know the job as soon as possible, remembering we learn new things very slowly; allowing him to learn by doing; and, finally, putting him on his own, with a decreasing amount of follow-up, until he has demonstrated mastery of the job. The committee believes that, for an experienced employee in a non-supervisory position, the task of training a new worker is a good way to learn the art of being a supervisor.

Copies of the plan will be sent to supervisors in Washington and the field.

Moving Day

At 5 p. m. on March 14, moving vans backed up to the doors of REA on Connecticut Avenue and began moving that agency to St. Louis. Other trucks called for the part of the Solicitor's Office, St. Louis bound.

On March 27, the FSA will begin moving to Cincinnati. Later in the spring the FCA will start for Kansas City, while about 200 AAA positions will move to Columbus, Ohio, and 500 to the various State AAA headquarters. In each case, when the personnel walk into their new offices, they will find them ready for business and often better arranged than their old quarters. There is none of the frenzy of home moving, with papa experimentally shoving the piano here and the sofa there, amid much honest sweat and waste motion. In the new Department offices everything—almost everything—will be placed right the first time.

Many a brave deed will mark governmental moving day but the arrange-

ment of new office space seems the most miraculous. It's done by using templets, or small-scale models of furniture. Before moving day a tiny flat piece of cardboard the exact size and shape of your desk, for instance, has been shoved around on a floor plan of your new office drawn to the same scale, until it has finally been placed just so—for light, convenience, flow of work and other considerations. Much easier than shuffling around several thousand full-sized desks and file cabinets in a 10-story building until everybody is satisfied.

When REA knew that it would move to St. Louis, Charles Blumer, a space technician from the Department's Office of Plant and Operations, went to call on Stewart Wilson, management chief at REA. For 2 days of driving, compressed work, the two men shifted templets. Then REA was as good as moved before the first trucks came to the door.

Department workers getting off the train will find waiting for them a list of available and decent rooms, homes, and apartments, with prices, drawn up by Public Buildings Administration. The USDA clubs in the cities concerned have been asked by Director of Personnel T. Roy Reid to help the newcomers find the dwellings, schools, churches of their choice, and otherwise help them to feel at home.

The Department has an expert house-keeping staff—the Office of Plant and Operations—under gray-headed alert Chief Arthur B. Thatcher. The Public Buildings Administration of the Federal Works Agency provides suitable office space for Government agencies throughout the whole country. With them, Plant and Operations works closely. Thatcher's staff of 19, including trained engineers and their assistants, know the Department's own particular space requirements to a T (for templet.) They also have knowledge which can't be graphed but which vitally affects operating efficiency, such as how to persuade an able but crotchety division chief to share his office and like it. If you catch one of Thatcher's men staring at a blank space in the corner, you'd better explain quickly that a file case belongs there but is out for repairs.

Moving day must be fast and efficient, for each day's lost work detracts from the war effort. Out of the 3,850 positions affected, only about 2,000 persons will actually move; 40 percent chose to stay in Washington and the filling of these vacancies is just one more headache for the administrators concerned.

How P. and O. Pitches in.

After the Public Buildings Administration obtains office space as required, Mr. Thatcher, Paul Finegan, C. DeVivo, George Bell, Chick Blumer, or another of our own decentralization technicians makes a quick trip out to help PBA plan and construct whatever changes and alterations are needed. As soon as the floor plans are cleared with PBA it's time to plan the best use of the space by the templetting process. The templets are then numbered to correspond to the actual pieces

of furniture and shipped ahead of the agency.

Meanwhile in Washington, Terry J. McAdams, Chief of P. and O.'s space section, is already wrestling with the problem of using the space left vacant. Not that it's hard to fill. Despite our South Building, second largest governmental office structure in the world, up until about 2 years ago the Department was housed under 50 different roofs in the District of Columbia. By watching closely the shifting real-estate situation and with the aid of our long-standing decentralization policy, McAdams has now brought this unhappy figure down to 27. The agencies now moving out of town will help, but the Department will not yet be all under one roof.

Chief Thatcher's next job is the actual moving. The PBA prefers that we leave as much furniture as possible here, replacing it at the point of destination. Everything else goes by train, taking 4 or 5 days. Employees who are paid under the regulations, the cost of moving themselves, their immediate families and household goods, also get per diem for the trip. Elmer Reese helps the folks move their household effects as well as official effects.

A timing job of military precision must be worked out in consultation with each agency, to see that the flow of work is interrupted as little as possible. Don't feel neglected if you're the last to move; they may be counting on you to fight a rearguard (but not a delaying) action to cover the retreat.

Good Homes Available in Washington.

Meanwhile, and continuing for some time afterward, Thomas L. Smith is helping employees to dispose of their real estate. Readers who know people moving to Washington might recommend that they consult the price list

of desirable homes for sale or for rent, posted in the Plant and Operations office here.

The last big job, which is a full-scale nightmare in itself, falls to Joe Koehl, chief of the telephone and telegraph section. That FCA, FSA, REA, AAA, and the Solicitor's Office can carry on their war jobs to any extent at all during the 3 or 4 weeks required for the moving will be due largely to Koehl and his men.

Efficiency Ratings and Promotions

This March is for USDA workers hoping for a promotion under the Mead-Rampeck Act the most important efficiency rating period in many years. The law does not automatically promote all employees. In addition to the requirements for 1½ years of satisfactory service you must be rated G or better this March, in order to receive a promotion within the year.

Not only the supervised but the supervisors who bestow the ratings will ponder them more deeply than usual this year. There will be only one form used for all types of positions, instead of two. There is also a new efficiency rating manual issued by the Civil Service Commission.

Everybody in the Department (except the Secretary, who reports direct to the President) receives an annual rating by his supervisor. Those who supervise nobody (and this includes many specialists and experts as well as CAF twos and threes) miss the bigger headache of passing judgment upon others. Their worry is comparatively simple—to earn the best rating possible.

It may help if you understand how your job relates to the total war job of this Department. A limited number of back copies of USDA are available to employees who find them useful in this connection.

McCamy Writes on Department

Jim McCamy, formerly one of Secretary Wickard's assistants, writes on Agriculture Goes to War, in the winter issue of *Public Administration Review*. "By the time of Pearl Harbor, 6 million farmers had been enlisted through personal address in the 'Food for Freedom' campaigns and, what is more important, had been given a detailed explanation of their individual contribution to the program * * *. The United States had become a vast grocery from which the hungry Englishman could order protein bulk in milk and cheese * * *. The island was saved as truly by American food as by the circumstance that no enemy invasion followed Dunkirk * * *. Agricultural administration can apply its experience of recent years to the future large job of directing the production and distribution of food for national health. It will have learned steadily from its progression through the crises of peace and war, and it will be able to face peace again with the same competence that made easy its transition to war."



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U S D A



April 3, 1942, Volume I, Number 5

MEN AT WORK

Wood for Ships and Planes

The Forest Service is making a check on supplies of oak suitable for keels, stems, etc., and bending oak for boat ribs. Surveys are now under way in the Appalachians and may later be extended to other areas. Forest Service is also cooperating with WPB in investigating the possibilities of extending the production of spruce for aircraft and is studying the requirements and supply situations in veneer and plywood.

Spring Intentions

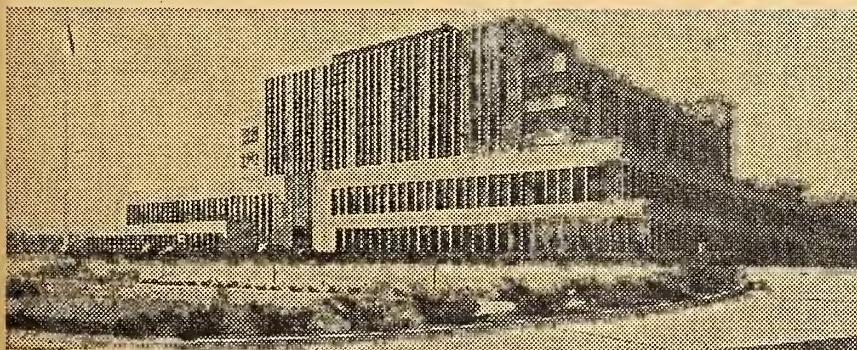
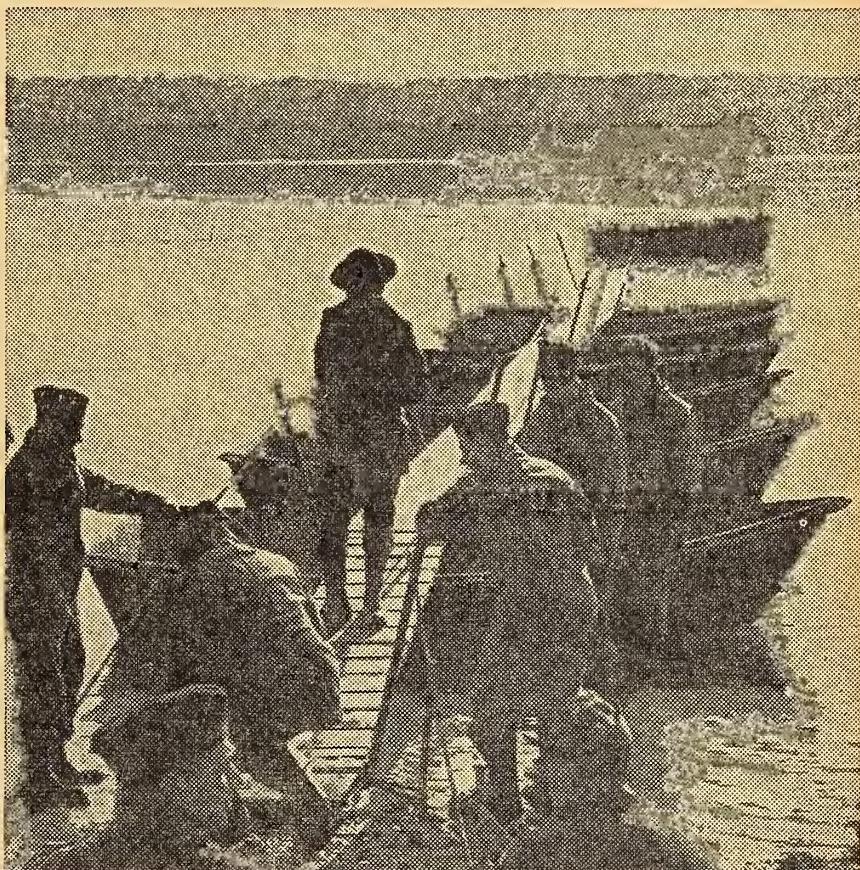
The Crop Reporting Board reported last month that prospective plantings on March 1 (many are actual plantings by now) were gratifying.

Secretary Wickard said that farmers are carrying out in a single year sweeping shifts in operations which ordinarily would require several years. "The Nation has every reason to be encouraged by yesterday's report on what farmers intend to plant this year. Already there had been substantial increases in production of eggs, meats, and milk. Now there is evidence that farmers plan great increases in the crops which the Nation needs."

For the oil crops which are so badly needed, March 1 intentions were short of the goals for peanuts and flaxseed, but this was partly offset by the fine report on soybeans. If 4 million acres are grown for hay this year, as was the

case last year, the Secretary pointed out that about 10,000,000 acres would be harvested for beans. The goal this year is 9 million acres. On March 1, farmers intended to plant a potato acreage

slightly larger than last year's, instead of making the suggested 10 percent increase. But 3 days later, the program was announced to encourage farmers to plant their full acreage allotment (See



These men are using infantry assault boats to build a pontoon bridge. The boats, several of which can be nested on one Army truck, have hulls of wood composition developed in cooperation with the Army at the Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wis., where more than 100 workers are now giving nearly all their time to war research in wood utilization. The laboratory, which was built in 1932, is operated by the Forest Service in cooperation with the University of Wisconsin.

USDA, March 6) and many farmers have stepped up their plans since then. Progress reports for livestock products and Food for Freedom generally were most encouraging.

The weather, of course, was still to be heard from. It might be bad; or extraordinarily good growing weather, here or there, might embarrass the market temporarily with even more than was counted on. But Mr. Wickard—a farmer who personally shares agriculture's profit-and-loss—was willing to take that chance.

The report was turned over promptly to the trained analysts and as fast as changes in any lines or regions are needed, the word will go out.

Cotton Bags Available

Cotton bags were made available for essential agricultural and chemical products by WPB order M-107, March 10. All persons receiving products in bags are asked to return them promptly in order to keep the bags in circulation.

Philosophy in War

The USDA Club in Philadelphia one evening last month held the first of a series of three "Schools of Philosophy," with dinner in the middle. More than 125 employees and spouses took part in a discussion on nazi-ism, fascism, and democracy. The April meeting was scheduled to discuss what USDA employees can contribute to the war.

Wool Coats for Airmen

While one arm of the Department studied wood for airplanes, in California and Texas sheep raisers were being asked by the War Production Board to plan now for the shearing of lambs and yearlings so that the skins at slaughter will bear just the right amount of wool to make warm flying suits for airmen. Wool on skins used in the manufacture of the vitally needed suits must be between one-quarter and 1 inch in length. WPB believes that 2 million additional skins suitable for the flying suits can be obtained as a result of the shearing program in the two States. To protect raisers who shear immediately the OPA has removed the ceiling on tanned shearlings and WPB has requested tanners, in anticipation of the removal of the price ceiling, to offer better prices for shearling skins.

Farm Labor

While various plans were discussed in Congress and throughout the Nation for mobilizing all Americans for the war effort, agriculture went ahead with its own mobilization job. Secretary Wickard in a memorandum to the USDA State and county war boards outlined a cooperative program for the boards and the U. S. Employment Service. The plan includes registration of all unemployed farm workers and members of farm families unemployed and available for work; all farm laborers, operators, and members of farm fami-

lies available for part-time work on other farms; all operators of farm equipment who could do custom work for their neighbors, and all school youth and women available for farm work. It includes development of plans for the exchange of farm labor; for use in peak seasons of people from towns and cities who have jobs in towns but could get away for the harvest; plans to train farm labor, to provide local centralized living quarters for migratory labor, and for transporting farm workers. Finally, the plan provides for all farmers to register their labor requirements. In counties where U. S. Employment Service does not have a permanent office, a voluntary representative (usually from a USDA war board) will be chosen.

• H. C. Byrd, president of the University of Maryland, and Maj. Louis Lanborn, headmaster of McDonough Institute, have developed a plan for training high-school boys and girls over 15 years of age in farm work on the institute's 800-acre farm. And at the University of Maryland, a short course has been set up for women who want to offer their services as farm workers. Three courses are running this spring, one in poultry raising, one in horticulture and gardening, and one in dairy-ing. Thirty-six women registered for these courses through the American Women's Voluntary Services.

• Business and professional men in York, Nebr., are anticipating part-time work in harvest fields next summer. They have been warned to toughen up for at least a short period of service on the far end of a pitchfork. The junior chamber of commerce in Lincoln, Nebr., is already enlisting business and professional men for part-time labor on half days or full-time labor during vacations.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

Item From Germany

The Germans have "farm leaders," too, according to Ed Hullinger, former foreign correspondent now in the Department. German barnyard fowls, like their masters, must produce or else. The Nazi food estate has ordered each hen to lay at least 200 eggs or the Government cuts off her ration and the owner cuts off her head.

Letter From England

c/o BANK OF ENGLAND,
Whitechurch, Hants,
England.

DEAR SIR: Yesterday, my wife purchased at our village grocers a tin of your Blank Spiced Luncheon Meat and we would like you to know that it was most enjoyable.

When this war business is over, which we hope will not be long, I hope you will

be able to market such products here as a regular line as I am sure that there would be a ready sale for them.

From the papers I see that American food supplies are being received in large supplies and look forward to trying more food items. If they are as good as the pork we shall enjoy them.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) W. G. CORNWELL SMITH.

(Letter opened by Examiner 3957)

Agriculture Becomes International

Farm people took a great interest in an announcement last month from the White House that on February 23, the United States and Great Britain signed a pact indefinitely postponing final settlement on the lend-lease-program costs; committing both nations to virtually unlimited free trade; and providing that final terms of the settlement "shall be such as not to burden commerce between the two countries."

Addressing the Sixth National Farm Institute at Des Moines, Iowa, last month Leslie A. Wheeler, Director of the Department's Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, explained how the nations in this hemisphere are working out their common economic problems. Because of ship shortages, he said, "our hopes for a thriving, freely moving trade within the hemisphere must, to some extent, be postponed. * * * When shipping is short priority schedules are established, and the things highest on the list move first." But after the war, it seems likely that "We can put into effect agreement by which the producing countries will limit their production of surplus crops and regulate their stocks, dividing among themselves on an equitable basis the available world market."

• Farming is rated the most hazardous industry in the United States, with 4,200 accidental deaths during the last year on record. (The British R. A. F., during the first 2 years of the present war, had losses at about the same annual rate.) To help farmers reduce accidents on their farms, the Department has released a free publication, *Watch Your Step* (MP 481).

• "The Department of Agriculture is convinced that it is not necessary for this nation ever again to endure a major economic depression. * * * We can have continuous prosperity in peace-time, if enough people want it and believe in it."—Secretary Wickard, in the *Poultry Tribune* (February).

What the Four H's Mean

To the one and one-half million 4-H boys and girls who are taking seriously National 4-H Club Mobilization Week, April 5-11, President Roosevelt has addressed a letter which ended as follows: "Let your head, heart, hands, and health truly be dedicated to your country, which needs them now as never before."

Life Without Tires

Washington Studies

A rumor circulated through Washington offices during the past fortnight that a Farm Security supervisor had already sold his automobile and bought a horse to visit his clients. The need for conserving rubber stirred a ferment of new devices, new ideas, affecting not only the routine of work but the nature of American life. Not all the proposals were stop-gap measures. Out of some would surely come permanent good.

Washington studied various ideas and prepared to ask the agencies for more, on how to conduct their work without rubber. Can we reduce the number of meetings? Consolidate them by presenting at one meeting the subject matter of several programs? (Some farm people have complained of being "meetinged to death," anyway.) Arrange doubling-up in cars with good tires? Or can county-wide meetings be abandoned in favor of small schoolhouse gatherings folks can reach on foot or horseback?

Secretary Wickard issued memos Nos. 996 and 997, on Department travel and conferences. Employees were not to drive their cars out of their designated territory without special permission, were not to drive cars in and out of Washington on field trips, and agencies were to clear with the Secretary's Office before calling large conferences involving considerable travel.

Meanwhile Donald C. Leavens, in the Office of Agricultural Defense Relations, was studying farm automobile transportation. William C. Crow, in the Agricultural Marketing Administration, was working on the broader and deeper question of moving farm products to market, at the request of the Office of Defense Transportation.

The Field Moves

Perhaps these Washington moves were only the reflection of a spirit already stirring in the field. (Do most good ideas originate in the field, to be slowly absorbed in Washington committee meetings, and come forth at last in mimeographed dress as something new?).

C. C. Hearn, a district Extension agent in Missouri, reported that the State Agricultural Extension Service, which owns a number of cars, no longer keeps them all at Columbia. Instead, cars are stabled at five key railroad junctions throughout the State. If an employee cannot reach his appointment in the State by train or bus he rides to

the nearest junction point, picks up a college car to complete his field trip, and leaves the car at the rail junction for the next man. This plan in 1 month saved 4,000 rubber-miles on 1 car.

Other employees were digging into the Railway Guide and bus schedules, working out coordinated rail-bus trips, using even the slowest mixed trains to reach points in the back country. Many railroads offer rental auto service at designated points. Any train will check a bicycle in the baggage car.

In some of the Western States, official messages to farm people went over the telephone, relayed by party lines with the speed of gossip and, it is hoped, a greater accuracy. In California certain radio stations were maintained on a standby schedule, used only for important war messages. In many a State, whole families were now reading the newspapers to get the latest word about the war job for farm and home.

Doubling Up Out West

Into Washington rolled (by train) Carl Knaus, veteran Extension field agent, with further word of what folks in Iowa and other States are doing. Farmers, he said, are beginning to double up on trips to town like so many Washington workers commuting from Arlington. A farmer who formerly trucked his own cream to town now calls for the neighbor's as well, and keeps calling until he has a truckload. And driving back, he brings not only his own feed and fertilizer but the other fellow's order too—like the wives of the office commuters who are learning to double up on shopping trips. In some cases, community planning for transportation needs is being done weeks and months ahead, so that farm and household supplies can be ordered and delivered for a group at one time.

Fun at Home

The urgent need for conserving rubber was reaching deep into all activities. One Extension agent reported that attendance at local church young people's meetings had already fallen from more than 40 to about 6. Extension in Washington, and the home demonstration agents in the States were thinking hard about the sort of recreation and community life that doesn't burn up tires. Square dancing, already growing in popularity, might take the place of movies as the tires grow thin—unless the movies find a way to come closer to home. One thing was certain, as any 4-H or FFA youngster could tell you—rural America was still going to have fun, perhaps a surprising amount of it, without chasing to town.

The Big Job Can Be Done

But the big job is war production, and everything else is important only as it contributes to production.

The war boards bring the agencies together in each county, organizing into concerted action the aids thus available to farm people, who, after all, must accomplish the production. Because

the farm people themselves must do this, organization reaching down into the community is necessary. In many places, such organization is developing. The trained, alert local farm leadership which has grown up as farm people have participated in the operation of various phases of the national farm program is meeting its supreme test, and meeting it well. The Secretary has already chosen AAA chairmen to be chairmen of state and county USDA war boards. The Secretary has also asked Extension to intensify its educational work and to help develop local leadership in each county to meet the war job. And the rubber shortage has thrown a huge spotlight on its methods of leadership training.

The plan varies somewhat from State to State, but in all it is essentially a neighborhood or district system in which selected men and women leaders are given the responsibility for contacting a certain number of farm men and women in a school district or other like area, by phone, personal call, and small meetings, and giving them information to help with their production job.

Iowa has organized school district cooperators, 1 man and 1 woman in an area of 4 sections comprising about 15 farm families, who relay information quickly to all the people of their respective school districts. Some 14,000 men cooperators have been trained for this duty by county agents and Extension specialists from the State college in small group meetings which burn rubber but will save it later on. An equal number of women cooperators are being trained in nutrition, gardening and other duties of the home front. The first local meetings held by the Iowa cooperators, on livestock and feed budgets, were attended by 5 to 11 farmers each.

Minnesota, a pioneer in the training of local war production leaders, follows a somewhat similar plan described in previous issues. Other States have gone at least part of the way. Missouri has prepared five publications especially for leaders, one each in the field of fruit, gardening, meat cutting, poultry, and dairy. Wisconsin trained local leaders held over 6,000 local schoolhouse meetings on one evening last October. In Massachusetts, every town has a rural "war action" committee, supplemented by "minutemen" in each neighborhood. Virginia has a somewhat similar organization.

• Rubber keeps best in a cool, dark place out of air currents. High humidity does not affect it, and a basement would be better than a hot attic. Keep it out of the sun and free of oil and grease; wrap it up; don't hang it on a nail as rubber deteriorates more rapidly under tension. These and many other tips on extending the life of rubber goods were issued last month by the Department.

• Sell your worn-out tires to a scrap dealer. They're urgently needed for reclamation, and it won't do you any good to save them, as retreads, even if available, cannot be placed on a worn-out carcass.

FOOD FOR FREEDOM

FfF or FfV

It is still Food for Freedom. Some are using a Food for Victory slogan. But this looks like a long war and victory may be a long way off. Food for Freedom is a campaign to win the war and win the peace.

Accomplishments of typical Food for Freedom families have been reported to show USDA workers, especially those remote from the farms, how their jobs are important in the war. After a time these stories tend to fall into a pattern—"Mr. and Mrs. So-and-So are increasing their numbers of hogs, chickens, and cows." We have to exert our imaginations to see the drama on each individual farm, to visualize getting up an hour earlier each day to feed extra chickens and milk more cows when labor is hard to get and son has gone to the Army. City people used to steady pay checks must imagine, also, the farmer's moral struggle not to become unduly discouraged when, as happens temporarily in this section or that, the prices for his products are disappointing. He does not receive a set wage like the factory worker; his own savings or borrowings are invested in his plant. But having set his hand to the plow, the American farmer will not look back. He will meet the production goals the Nation has asked for.

Price Supports Become Local

The Department's pledge to support Food for Freedom prices by purchases, first announced a year ago, still holds good. But there is a long rope of supply and demand which reaches from any central market to the poultry flock on a southern hill farm, for example. A tug at one end cannot instantly take up a local slack which means low egg prices to the farmer. Therefore the Department's new Agricultural Marketing Administration has worked out a way of bringing the market closer to this southern farmer whose local marketing facilities do not provide a ready outlet for his eggs. In four States of the South the AMA is now buying eggs at designated warehouses, in lots of 10 cases or more, at announced prices based on 85 percent of parity. Federal-State inspectors grade the eggs at the buying points on the scheduled days when they are bought. The program can be extended to eight additional Southern States as soon as local groups make necessary operating arrangements. Details are available from State and local war boards in the South.

The Granary Helps the Sugar Barrel

When the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 provided for an ever-normal

granary, many were the predictions made, hopeful and otherwise. But no one could have prophesied that in 1942 these stores of corn and wheat, the surplus of the fat years set aside for the lean, would help to relieve a sugar shortage. Last month the WPB announced that the program of substituting grain for molasses as the base grain from which some industrial alcohol is made is going forward successfully. If arrangements made thus far can be carried out during the year a saving of the equivalent of 550,000 tons of sugar will result. The change over from molasses to grain has been difficult, but is moving more rapidly now.

Food for Freedom Families

School Teacher

D. Call, principal of the schools in Layton, Davis County, Utah, after school puts on overalls and helps with the chores. With the help of a large family he will increase production of sugar beets, feed grain, onions, tomatoes, and peas on 272 acres of good irrigated land. "It will mean longer hours in the field," he says. And classroom work is no easier these days.

Farm Canner

But Jack Lowery, of Scott County, Ky., takes the record for canning vegetables on the farm. Last year he canned right on his own farm 2,200 cases of tomatoes from 22 acres and 75 cases of beans from a half-acre plot. This year he is planning to produce about 4 times as many tomatoes as he raised last year—and 40 times as many beans. Plans to can them all on the farm, too. He is replacing the small tank he now uses with a boiler from an old steam engine.



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If Your Office Doesn't Get It,
Ask Your Supervisor.

Lively

The William J. Lively family lives on a Graham County farm in western Kansas which has no water for irrigation. But their plans call for producing 150 bushels of garden vegetables, entirely by dryland-farming methods. In 1941, they actually grew 90 bushels and canned 415 quarts of vegetables, none too many for Mr. and Mrs. Lively and their seven children. This year they expect to put up 550 quarts of vegetables, including 300 quarts of tomatoes, to raise plenty of potatoes and at least 15 bushels of root crops to store for the winter.

SALVAGE AND REPAIR

In the scrap collection drive the Department practices what it preaches. The Secretary has asked all bureau chiefs to see what surplus, obsolete, and discarded equipment and materials they can find.

Results so far from seven bureaus show that their warehouses, laboratories, storerooms, stockrooms, garages, shops, sheds, yards, and offices throughout the United States have yielded more than 1,443 tons of scrap metal, 42 tons of old rubber, 28 tons of old batteries, 82 units of junked automotive equipment, and a huge quantity of miscellaneous machinery, motors, paper scrap, and other equipment. Of the bureaus reporting so far, SCS heads the list with net proceeds from the sale of scrap and unserviceable materials totaling \$25,533. Forest Service so far has sold more than 658 tons, for a total of \$9,697. Other bureaus include BAI, 106 tons Beltsville Research Center, 50 tons BE & PQ, 11 tons (incomplete); and BPI, 79 tons (incomplete). Reports are expected from all the bureaus, with the biggest collections perhaps yet to come.

• WPA trucks will be available to war boards to help collect scrap iron from now on. Local war boards have further information.

• Scrap is coming out of the backwoods as well as the farms. Rangers in the Forest Service are locating big amounts at old abandoned mines and sawmills in the back-country forest areas. Over 15 tons have been piled up in the yard of one Ranger station in the Eldorado National Forest in California. Local settlers and forest workers will bring in more when the snows melt.

• Order your winter coal now. Hoarding coal is patriotic, will ease the coming strain on truck and rail transport.

• Farmers are being asked this year for a crop of hempseed 33 times as big as in 1941, in order to raise hemp in 1943 to replace what we used to buy from the Far East.

U S D A



April 17, 1942, Volume I, Number 6

FOOD FOR FREEDOM

An Acre for a Soldier

Jim McClure of Asheville many years ago introduced in North Carolina the custom of the Lord's Acre, now dedicated each year by many a Southern family for the support of the local church. A natural sequence is an Acre for a Soldier.

The idea has caught on. Fifty-eight FSA borrowers in two Alabama counties signed up the first week. Many dedicated their acre to a relative or neighbor. A typical pledge: "I hereby dedicate one acre of my cropland to be planted in peanuts to James Walls, my soldier in the service of the United States." Many families resolved to buy war bonds or stamps with proceeds from their acre. Said Alto Jones, FSA borrower in Alabama: "Yes, sir, I will have a Soldier Acre. It will probably be in peanuts, and I will be willing to actually give the proceeds from one acre. I'm willing to eat bread and drink water if those soldiers will fight this battle and help win the war." In several counties, local people are taking steps to provide flag-shaped posters of wood with the legend, "My Soldier's Acre is Planted Here." The idea has been approved by War Boards in several Southern States.

• A soldier or sailor eats from two or three times as much meat as the average civilian. This means that about 200,000,000 extra pounds must be produced and processed this year for that reason alone.

• The goal for 125 billion pounds of milk if we used it as milk, would amount roughly to more than a quart a day for every man, woman and child in the United States plus a pint for every resident of the British Isles. (But so far in England only expectant and nursing mothers and children under 5 years of age receive a pint of fresh milk per day. Even this allowance is possible only because of the milk powder and evaporated milk shipped from America.)

• Karl Swanson, county agent in North Dakota, after 33 meetings on



In this war, the South is being asked for more. (See Twenty-Five Years Ago, on page 4)

machinery, Food for Freedom, and the other jobs of the farmer at war, wrote a letter to each farm family advising them of the subjects covered at the meetings and suggesting that they hang the letter in the kitchen and check off the items they are working on. Each family in his county also hangs a Guide to Good Eating poster in the kitchen—and signs a pledge to use it. The County Commissioners paid for the posters.

Show Boats Show War Shows

War movies to help farmers reach their production goals are a direct part of the war effort and cannot be left to leisurely distribution. USDA War Boards have been trying out "circuits" of different kinds. In New Mexico, for example, the Forest Service made available a fully equipped Show Boat on wheels. Equipped with light system and projection and amplifying equipment and Forest Service driver-operator, the $\frac{3}{4}$ -ton panel truck toured the sparsely-settled State with the film, "Farmers and Defense," and reached more farmers than have yet been able to see the film in other regions. War Boards made the advance arrangements in each county.

Letter received by the Supervisor of the Mendocino National Forest in California: "I am willing to do lookout duty if it will release a younger man to the fighting forces of the United States. I will be 77 years old next week, left hand crippled, hearing slightly impaired, eyesight good. Was in the Fifty-second Louisiana Infantry Volunteers during the Spanish War. Bought what bonds I could during World War I, and am willing to serve now without salary—just camp supplies."

Understanding Why

It is entirely possible that the Department, while using the powers Congress has given it to encourage needed production, and adapting its programs dealing with the distribution of farm commodities, the use of land, and the welfare of farm people to this goal, has still missed an obvious bet. Perhaps we've been too busy with these activities to explain as fully as we might have done just why each war crop is needed.

Basic Explanations

Explanations have been given, of course. Secretary Wickard on the ra-

dio, the Department in its publications, the War Board members in each State and county, and other employees have done their best at explaining each new crisis as it came along. But the explanations cannot always be simple. Whereas anybody can understand why more airplanes, ships, and tanks are needed to defeat the Axis, it may require practically a lesson in world geography and another lesson in modern industrial methods to understand the importance of planting more soybeans. (Do you know the answer? We have lost important oil imports from the Far East; soybean oil is needed food, for paints and varnish for the Army, Navy, Air Corps, and industry, for lubricating fine machinery and other purposes.)

A Southern cotton farmer is entitled to know why long-staple cotton is so important (for parachute cords, machine-gun belts, and other uses). We must have more of the long and the medium-length staple. We need more flaxseed for linseed oil. We also need cottonseed for oil.

Peanuts are needed so badly for their oil that "Don't feed peanuts to the elephants" may lose its funny ring. Acting on reports that many farmers hesitated to tackle increased peanut acreage for fear there won't be labor or machinery to do the job, the Department asked WPB to make more peanut pickers available and WPB has made metal available to manufacture 3,600 new peanut pickers.

Price Supports

An understanding of the price supports is also absolutely vital. The nature of the supports varies with the nature of the legislation, the crops, and the industries concerned. In the case of eggs, pork, and certain dairy products, for instance, price supports take the form of direct purchases. In the case of soybeans, long-staple cotton, and certain other crops, the principal price support comes from the loan rate offered by the Commodity Credit Corporation, along the same general lines as the familiar CCC loans on wheat and corn. For tomatoes and peas for canning, the Department will make its purchases of the canned goods from canners certified by State USDA War Boards as paying fair prices to the farmers. These prices, of course, vary from region to region, and detailed information can be obtained from local War Boards. But the farmer must make his own bargain with the canner.

Almost continual explanation of some of these points is necessary, because of the natural tendency to assume that "price supports" mean that the Government is guaranteeing a certain set price for all products needed.

The Milk Situation

Recent action in the case of milk will illustrate the point. The price support for milk is the Department's promise to make purchases of evaporated milk, cheese, and dry skim milk to support prices of these products at not less than

"Production Now" For USDA Workers

In an Ohio county last month, farm people and town people got together for a mass meeting at the Opera House and started a movement called "Production Now." (The April issue of *Land Policy Review* contains an article on "Production Now" by its originator, now working with the Office of Price Administration in Washington.)

A wave of enthusiasm for immediate maximum war production is sweeping through cities, towns, and the open country. All sorts of movements and groups are springing up, in the typical American way, with every slogan under the sun. To the extent that "all things work together for good," USDA workers can and should cooperate for greater war production, but our first job is to be sure we are already using all our ingenuity and resources through the channels previously set up.

A recent action of the Maryland State and County War Boards in regard to canneries is a perfect example.

At a meeting of the Maryland State War Board it was reported that tomato growers were thinking seriously of a 25 percent increase in production over last year, more than the canneries can handle. A number of Board members and guests spoke up to mention canning plants which had been either operating part time or were closed down. Thereupon the State War Board charged all County War Boards to make an immediate survey of all canning plants. They will find the owners of all canneries not operating and find out what they need in order to get into production: financing, labor, or equipment? The cannery owners will be assured by the County War Boards of help in meeting their needs, whatever they are, and will be urged to operate their plants at capacity this coming season.

The action was in line with the duties of the War Boards, and did not call for the establishment of a new committee or the printing of a new letterhead.

85 percent of parity during the period ending December 1, 1942.

To get the million of pounds of evaporated milk and cheese that were urgently needed by the British, the Surplus Marketing Administration (now the Agricultural Marketing Administration) at first bought at prices higher, in relation to the price of butter, than in normal times. There followed a decided shift in the utilization of milk from butter to evaporated milk and cheese. For example, the production of evaporated milk in December 1941 was 93 percent higher than a year earlier, while the production of creamy butter was about 10 percent less. Simi-

larly, cheese production in the same month was about double that of a year ago.

In many cases this meant that many farmers were selling whole milk to processing plants, whereas they had formerly skimmed the milk on the farm, sold only the cream to creameries and fed the skim milk to livestock. To encourage such a shift, the AMA has paid prices for the dry skim milk which would make it profitable for the dairy farmer to sell whole milk rather than separate it and feed the skim on the farm. Now that the gigantic evaporated milk and cheese goals are being met, the AMA has lowered its paying prices for evaporated milk and cheese more nearly to their usual relation to butter. At the same time, in order to increase the production of dry skim milk and make full use of manufacturing milk supplies in excess of current evaporating and cheese-making needs, butter prices are being supported at a higher level.

With the present minimum price of butter raised to 36 cents a pound (92-score Chicago) as announced by the Secretary on March 28, butter and dry skim yields a favorable return to producers as compared with prices paid by evaporating plants and cheese factories. Also, this step was taken because it is essential that milk production be maintained, and in view of the higher costs of feed and labor the price at which butter had been held was not adequate to maintain the production of milk at a sufficiently high level.

The entire dairy program, the way it is operating now, is intended to maintain production in such a way that we may assure our Allies of the foods which they need and at the same time protect our own people against the disaster of wildly fluctuating supplies and unstabilized markets.

Of Course It's Complicated

There's no use pretending it isn't complex. But it is just such delicate balancing—based on long hours of study by statisticians and economists in offices throughout America, on reports from every farming region and every market—that is necessary to winning the war on the farm front.

ACAA Means MORE Production

Perhaps the most important single point for USDA employees of all ranks, in all bureaus, to understand is that the Conservation and Adjustment Program means *increased* farm production. Often as this truth has been told, it needs retelling.

The suggestion was made recently that all of the funds appropriated for conservation payments under the AAA this year be devoted to "paying farmers to produce more corn, cotton, wheat, sugar, rice, and tobacco." Wrote the Secretary in reply: "Obviously, farm production cannot be considered as a unit. A surplus of tobacco cannot make up for a deficit in oils. Since

farmers' land, labor, and equipment can produce just so much, producing more of the things we don't need means producing less of the things we do need. Such a course would be like continuing passenger automobile production at the expense of tanks.

Thus the farm program payments for wheat, cotton, tobacco, and corn—the only four which involve any acreage limitation whatever—are levers in increasing more necessary farm production. The sugar payments, far from inducing restriction, are direct incentives to the greatest possible production. This year there are no restrictions of any kind on sugar beet or cane acreage. The payments will be made on the greatest amount of sugar each farm is able to send to the factory. Rice payments are also incentives. There is no limitation on rice acreage; in fact, if a farmer plants less than four-fifths of his allotment, deductions will be made from his rice payments.

In regard to sugar and rice, AAA payments, far from inducing restriction, are direct incentives to the *greatest possible production*. This year there are no restrictions on sugar beet or cane acreage and the payments are actually made on the greatest amount of sugar each farm is able to send to the factory. Similarly with rice; there is no limitation on acreage and if a farmer plants less than four-fifths of his allotment, deductions will be made from his rice payments.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Coordinating Norway

In country after country conquered by the Nazis the story is the same—the farmers, like the rest of the population, are ordered to produce what the Germans want. In Norway, for example, farmers have been ordered to reduce their production of bread grains—wheat and rye—and increase their production of oats, barley, and potatoes, which the Nazis say "are better adapted to the Norwegian soil." At the same time Norwegian bakers have been ordered to limit the wheat in their bread to 10 percent. Before the war Norway's bakers usually used two-thirds wheat flour and one-third rye. The Germans are reported to be taking 65 percent of Norway's fish catch.

An American farmer hitching up the old team because of the shortage of new machinery might reflect on the situation of the Norwegian farmer who is chained to his plow by a Quisling order which forbids any farmer to follow any other occupation and threatened with seizure of his farm if he does not produce satisfactorily. Yet

one of the first acts of the German Army was to order farmers to deliver up nearly half of all the horses in the country.

MANAGEMENT COLUMN

Forest Service "Sponsors"

For the past year new girls entering the Forest Service have had sponsors to help them adjust to their environment, appreciate the importance of the work done by the Service, and on request to counsel where to live, how to cash a check, etc. Sponsors, in turn, are guided by a mimeographed "Guide for Sponsors." Personnel people in other USDA agencies can learn more on request to Miss Gladys Turner, chairman of the Forest Service sponsorship committee in Washington.

ACAA Coordination

Under their recent marriage as the Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, the Triple-A and the Soil Conservation Service for the most part keep their maiden names in popular usage. However, a new publication is being prepared "ACAA In Brief," to highlight in popular style the organization, functions, and objectives of the new organization.

More Brains, Less Paper

School children in small towns have promised to make fewer mistakes in order to save rubber on erasers.

USDA workers can take a similar pledge to make their letters more concise and accurate. James F. Grady, correspondence counselor in the Office of Personnel, who has already held letter-writing courses for thousands of USDA employees, has been working with an interdepartmental correspondence conference sponsored by the Civil Service Commission to improve the character of letters throughout the Government. (The saving in paper, while important, is probably the least of the savings effected by a good letter.) Reports on what your office is doing to save paper (and rubber, metals, time and other scarce commodities) are invited from all readers of USDA.

Adjusting Your Life to War

USDA employees can also set an example in adjusting their own lives to the war. *Consumers Guide* for April 1 contains a handy check-list of old habits to lose and new ones to acquire. Some sample things to check:

You have never tried dried fruits as a substitute for candy.

You frequently forget to turn off lights when you leave the room.

You use your car to go places you could reach by public vehicle.

You always spend every cent you get.

You are going to try them now.

You are going to start a campaign to turn off lights when not in use.

You are going to use public vehicles as often as it will save wear on car and tires.

You are going to save some money this year.

Life Without Tires, Continued

The FSA supervisor-on-horseback, mentioned in the last issue of USDA, is John Johnson, of Marinette County, Wis. The same plan is being tried by FSA supervisors in Alabama, who are saving their cars for longer trips. An Indiana supervisor uses a motorcycle; in Michigan, an enterprising county supervisor bought a \$60 car, using obsolete tires which are not rationed, and stored his new model. A group of Minnesota farmers organized a cooperative under FSA direction and chartered a bus to carry the members to the various Government offices where they transact business.

These were the headliners. But in every county in which there is a Farm Security program employees have worked out joint itineraries which save the use of one or more cars. And (perhaps taking a leaf from Extension) the management and home supervisors in the various counties are organizing borrowers into small groups, meeting at central points so that farmers can walk or drive horses, and the supervisor can make one trip instead of many.

Also, in a number of states successful local farmers are enlisting to carry out supervisory activities for neighboring FSA borrowers under the direction of the county supervisor. This idea (like Extension's rural leadership) goes back much farther than the rubber shortage.

Theoretically, FSA could continue to loan money without supervision, but assistance in farm-and-home management, according to the testimony of thousands of farmers has been a bigger factor in their rehabilitation than the money which they borrowed. And, as John D. Black, professor of economics at Harvard who has been making a field study of FSA under grant of the Rockefeller Foundation, declared this month * * * "Money will be lost without supervision such as the FSA gives its borrowers to insure against improper farm-and-home management, efficiency will suffer and outstanding loans may not be repaid."

● "I wish citations could be given to women who raise their eggs, milk, and vegetable quotas in this coming year, so that they would realize what

their work will mean in the war effort as a whole."—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

• The Chicago USDA Club will hold a series of four meetings on Wartime Challenges of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Division of Program Study and Discussion of BAE. Speakers from the Department include Carl F. Taeusch, Alva H. Benton, Mordecai Ezekiel, and T. Roy Reid. Other speakers include Leonard D. White of the Civil Service Commission, and faculty members of universities of Wisconsin, Chicago, Tulane, Southern California, and Minnesota.

Twenty-five Years Ago

Twenty-five years ago the Department of Agriculture was urging farmers and the public to: Eat more potatoes ("the enemy is out-eating us in potatoes, out-potatoing us"); to study nutrition, keep home gardens, preserve fruits and vegetables, drink more milk, use honey for sugar, raise chickens and sheep (President Wilson set the example with a flock of sheep on the White House lawn), burn wood instead of coal, raise pigeons and rabbits for meat, save nitrate and burlap bags, and continually to buy war bonds and stamps.

Farm labor was a problem. Emphatically, Assistant Secretary Clarence Ousley (of Texas) wrote in the Department's weekly News Letter for May 29, 1918: "I will despise American manhood if the great body of our men permit our women to be drafted for these hard tasks of agriculture until we have sent every able-bodied creature in breeches to the trenches or driven him to the fields; but 'women are to be encouraged, so far as their physical condition will permit or the circumstances surrounding them will advise, to engage in the lighter tasks of the farm, particularly in dairy work, in vegetable cultivation, and in fruit harvesting."

Other Parallels

There are other parallels between 1917 and 1942. The poster entitled "Your hen can help whip the Kaiser" needed only a slight alteration of moustache and title to fit our present adversary: the hen's part is the same. But despite many similarities agriculture's job today has basically changed.

The biggest difference, of course, (but one which some people have not yet grasped), is in the nature of crop expansion needed. Then, the big shift was to wheat. "Wheat Will Win the War," said posters of 1918. But today, we have enough wheat on hand to last us 2 years and our Allies are well supplied with grain stocks. The war crops of 1942 are primarily finished food products—dairy, pork, poultry, certain canned vegetables, dried beans—and the fats and oils needed for food and for industry.

Shift

In every part of the country the shift which has taken place in agriculture between two world wars is striking to the observer. On the plains, farmers (as part of the present food production drive) are plowing, not to increase acreage of wheat, but to contour sloping land and protect the soil. And in the South there has been nothing less than an agricultural revolution between two wars—a peaceful beneficial revolution, whose greatest future lies ahead.

According to the News Letter of March 13, 1918, "The Department of Agriculture is not asking the South to contribute materially to the Nation's food and feed supply, but is asking the South only to feed itself so that it may not become a burden upon the food-producing sections of the country which must strain their energies to the utmost in order to feed the armies and maintain the civil populations behind them."

More!

Today, the Department is asking the South for a great deal more than that.

Southern farmers are being asked for enormous acreage of peanuts for oil. They are growing wide fields of tomatoes and beans for canning (one such field in Florida is shown on page 1) and of hemp to make rope for the Navy. Eggs from thousands of Southern farms are being purchased for lend-lease shipment. The South is still deficient in dairy production, but Southern creameries and cheese factories, like Southern canneries, are supplying food for the armed forces and for our allies. Hog numbers are being increased on many a Southern farm, not just for ourselves but for the world. And cotton farmers are shifting their acreage to the longer staple varieties to meet Army and Navy needs. From the farms of the South as from other sections come enormous quantities of scrap iron. Farmers there as elsewhere spot airplanes or do warden duty after a full day in the fields working on the varied production goals the Nation has asked them for.

The farmers of the South, white and Negro, are mobilized and working for victory in battle and the building of a better world. So progress in solving our internal problems brings its rich reward in the day of final crisis.



The matter contained herein is published semimonthly by direction of the Secretary of Agriculture as administrative information required for proper transaction of the public business, with the approval of the Director of the Budget. EDITOR, A. T. ROBERTSON.

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If Your Office Doesn't Get It,
Ask Your Supervisor.**

U S D A



May 8, 1942, Volume I, Number 7

WOMEN

Better employment and salary opportunities than ever before are promised for the Department's women employees, to whom personnel officers are looking more and more to replace the 3,000 men who have already entered the armed forces.

At a luncheon last month, the officers heard three persons discuss the question, "In what jobs formerly held by men can we place women?" and decided that women can take the place of men in most positions.

The first speaker on the panel, Dr. Louise Stanley, chief of BHE, pointed out that in considering individuals for positions, training and personality are not especially sex-linked characteristics.

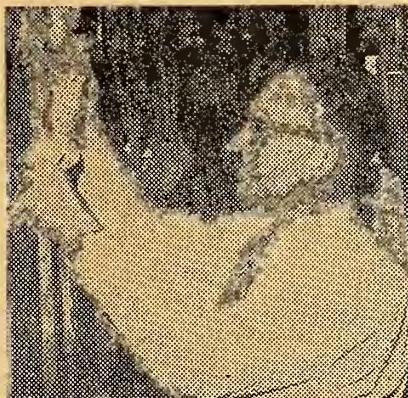
"Of course, in a woman, there are certain physical handicaps that cannot be disregarded," Dr. Stanley said.

"But as a rule, women can be trained to do almost any job. In scientific positions, there is no doubt that women are equally capable, if not more capable, in some instances, than men. In England, for example, women have become airfield lighting engineers and by training have become well qualified to carry out any of the tasks required by the job."

Dr. M. A. McCall, assistant chief of BPI, said: "There is no inherent reason why women cannot do as effective a job as most men. In the problem of replacements, we are up against it, however. For many types of service in the Bureau of Plant Industry, women have not been trained. But assistants now are going to be the most important group. If they have had the basic training, with a little more help, they will fit into the situation very well. They can be kept on the job now, and will eventually be our leading people in the field."

"The panel is unanimous in the belief that women are people," said Frank H. Spencer, assistant chief of BE&PQ. "There has been a remarkable change in the past few years in the thought and practice of employing women. Even now the picture is continually changing.

"Dr. Henry Reining, Director of the National Institute of Public Affairs, says that of 50 interns, students sent as trainees to Government agencies an-



Dr. M. T. Jenkins, in charge of the Department's Corn investigations, is shown here harvesting Waxy Iowa Hybrid 939, a newly developed kind of corn that may replace tapioca supplies cut off by the war.

Mice and Diets

● To emphasize the importance of the production-for-home-use side of the Department's FfF campaign, FSA home supervisors in Nebraska have employed white rats in a scientific demonstration of the value of a balanced diet.

More than 1,000 members of borrower families in that State have seen how the rats react to good and bad diets. The exhibit tickled school children particularly because it was designed to illustrate the effects of vitamin-rich and vitamin-poor school lunches. Afterwards, the supervisors, on their rounds, carried the exhibit directly to borrowers' homes.

One white rat was fed wholewheat bread, butter, cheese, raw carrots, lettuce, and milk. The other received white bread, jelly, soda crackers, soft drinks, coffee, and candy. In a few weeks, the first animal tripled his weight. The second gained nothing, and got sore eyes.

The poorly fed rat was then given carrots, and gradually began to grow shiny and plump. Cheese was added to his diet. He gained some more. After going on a completely balanced diet the erstwhile weakling threatened to outstrip his cage mate.

(Continued on Page 3)

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TOTAL WAR

The big news this week (and for weeks to come) has to do with farm storage of small grains, especially wheat, and saving bags.

Both are capital-letter problems. Every employee of the Department should know something about them.

Storage

Storage was often a headache last year. It's more of a problem now. Freight cars, sometimes used for temporary storage, now haul munitions. Farmers in the Pacific States customarily sell or store bagged grain—and bags are scarce. Railroads may put embargoes on grain shipments to crowded centers. Terminal space is limited.

Farmers who wait to see how big their harvests are will be too late, but, while shortages are reported in some places, those who start now will have a better chance to get lumber and nails for repairs or for new granaries (that must meet specifications to qualify for stored wheat for loan), and most bin construction will be exempt from WPB limitations on materials.

Farmers who take out Government wheat loans will get 7 cents a bushel storage allowance—about half enough to pay building costs this year; that rate (while shortages are reported in some areas those who act now will have a better chance) will just about pay for the bins next year.

About Bags

The Department is pushing a Nationwide program to conserve cotton and burlap bags for farm products. Two aims: To encourage careful handling of bags to permit repeated use, and to promote prompt return of usable bags to trade channels.

● How to save bags: Open them without cutting; protect filled bags from rats and mice; store filled or empty bags in a dry place; remove fertilizer and lime from them as soon as possible; empty bags promptly, turn them inside out, beat, and hang them over a wire; dry wet bags in the sun to prevent mildew and rot; sell bags you don't need.

Farm Front

● Miscellany to add to your continuing picture of war on the farm front:

(Continued on Page 3)

Department Aids In Japanese Relocation

One of the biggest mass migrations in history is now moving into full swing on the Pacific Coast. By proclamation of the Western Defense Command and as a military necessity, more than 100,000 alien and American-born Japanese are being moved away from the strategic coastal strip and will eventually be resettled for the duration on special Government projects at 15 or 20 inland points.

Collaborating in this large-scale exodus are the United States Army, a number of civilian agencies, and the newly created War Relocation Authority under Milton S. Eisenhower, former Land Use Coordinator of the USDA.

Actual evacuation of the Japanese is being handled by the Wartime Civil Control Administration, under the supervision of the Western Defense Command and Fourth Army. Adjustment of the problems left in their wake—and there are many—is being effected by several agencies, including the Department's War Boards. Resettlement of the evacuees after evacuation is the job of the War Relocation Authority.

One of the most vexing problems left behind by the evacuees is that of idle farms. Approximately 30 percent of all the gainfully employed Japanese on the Coast are farmers, and in some lines of vegetable production they have had a virtual monopoly.

In California alone, they have operated more than 5,000 farms, including a total of 225,000 acres and representing an aggregate investment of more than \$65,000,000 in land and buildings, and nearly \$6,000,000 in machinery and equipment.

Although much of this capital is actually owned by white landlords, it does represent a sizable portion of the State's agricultural wealth.

Through the FSA, the Department is now attempting to keep the Japanese farms in production by means of sales and lease arrangements with qualified operators. It is generally conceded, however, that the peculiar skill of the Japanese operators in specialized vegetable production will not be easily replaced.

By the same token, the agricultural talents of the Japanese should be usable in their new surroundings. One of the most important jobs the War Relocation Authority has in mind for them is the subjugation of raw land and the development of other natural resources.

Many of the Japanese are good irrigators and should be able to build up systems which will be a permanent asset to the West. All work of this kind will be done either on lands already in Federal ownership or on tracts especially acquired by the Federal Government so that improvements made at public expense will become public, not private, assets.

Right now the Japanese are being gathered by the Wartime Civil Control Administration at about 50 so-called "assembly centers"—mostly former race tracks and fair grounds—located all along the Pacific Coast. At these centers they are being temporarily fed and housed by the Army and are being offered a chance to enlist in the War Relocation Corps. As rapidly as possible, those who enlist will be moved with their immediate families for the duration to "relocation projects" which the WRA is establishing.

On the projects the evacuees will be given an opportunity to build up normal communities of their own and to do work that contributes directly or indirectly to the war effort. Four principal types of work are contemplated: (1) Public works such as resource development, (2) production of Food for Freedom, (3) manufacture of war goods (such as cartridge belts and camouflage nets) involving a good deal of hand labor, and (4) the whole gamut of community services ordinarily found in a typical American town.

For work done on the projects as part of the regular project program, the evacuees will be paid according to their skills as determined by the WRA. Cost of food, shelter, and other subsistence items provided by the Government for an evacuee family will be deducted from the wages paid the family's working members. Contrary to newspaper reports, no evacuee working on a relocation project will receive net cash wages in excess of the minimum wages paid the American soldier.

To help in the pressing job of selecting sites for the relocation projects, the WRA has enlisted the cooperation of the USDA, Interior, and the Federal Security Agency. Four regional teams, each made up of qualified men from these agencies, are now examining potential project areas and making recommendations.

Standards for relocation project sites are exacting. In the first place, they must be located a safe distance away from strategic works. They must provide year-round work opportunities. Transportation and power facilities, water supply, soil, climate, and similar factors must be satisfactory.

Finally, each project must provide an economic base for a community of at least 5,000 persons. This last requirement is necessary because military guards will be needed for protection of the projects and the Army cannot disperse troops to guard a large number of small communities.

So far, three relocation projects have been announced.

One, situated on the Colorado River Indian Reservation near Parker, Ariz., includes about 80,000 acres and will

eventually accommodate about 20,000 evacuees.

Another having about 7,000 acres of irrigated land and 8,000 acres of raw land on the Gila Reservation southeast of Phoenix, will provide for a community of approximately 10,000.

The third includes about 68,000 acres on the Milner-Gooding Reclamation Project near Eden, Idaho, and will accommodate 10,000.

The War Relocation Authority has an office in Washington, temporarily located in the Administration Building, and a regional headquarters in the Whitcomb Hotel Building in San Francisco. Eventually there will be a staff at each of the 15 or 20 relocation projects.

Col. E. F. Cress of the United States Army is Deputy Director of the Authority, and three former USDA employees—Philip M. Glick, John A. Bird, and Leland Barrows—are Solicitor, Information Director, and Executive Officer in that order. E. R. Fryer, former superintendent of the Navajo Indian Reservation, heads up the San Francisco office.

FSA's Job

FSA has the job of finding citizen farmers to take over the thousands of acres that the Japanese aliens and Japanese-Americans were farming before the Army evacuated them.

General J. L. DeWitt, in command of West Coast Defense, designated Lawrence I. Hewes, FSA Regional Director, to handle this task for the Wartime Civilian Control Administration. Hewes and 100 field agents working with him will see that the Japanese evacuees get a square deal, and that the new operators guarantee to produce Food for Freedom.

In cases where the Japanese owners or tenants are unable or unwilling to transfer their farms, and crop losses are threatened, Hewes has authority to freeze the property and operate it on a temporary basis. He is disposing of these farms to eligible buyers or new tenants as soon as possible.

FSA has made special loans amounting to \$1,000,000, and averaging \$4,800 each, to qualified applicants who could not get operating capital from private sources.

More than half the acreage evacuated in California, Arizona, Oregon, and Washington has been transferred to citizen farmers. Thousands of applications from native Americans, Mexicans, Filipinos, land companies, processors, and canners are being reviewed.

Farm Labor

The Utah War Board has drafted a five-point program meeting to insure an ample farm labor supply for the FFF work: Dismiss upper classes in secondary schools during peak harvest season; students to be formed into organized work units; secure safe Japanese help; ask industries to grant furloughs to workers during the peak; wait on army officials to secure help of furloughed men; ask businessmen to lend a hand on farms.

MANAGEMENT COLUMN

● An eight-man committee, appointed by Secretary Wickard, started work this week to stimulate the development of statistical techniques in dealing with Department problems. The group will act as a clearing house through which appropriate arrangements can be made to supply statistical guidance to research workers in Washington and the field.

Dr. J. M. Thompson, AAA, is chairman. M. A. Girshick, BAE, is secretary. Other members are Dr. F. M. Wadley, BE&PQ; Paul L. Koenig, BAE; James G. Osborne, FS; Dr. A. F. Brandt, AACAA; Dr. Conrad Taeuber, BAE, and Dr. O. C. Stine, BAE, ex officio.

In some of the field research centers, groups of professional workers meet informally to discuss statistical problems. Mr. Girshick is anxious to hear from these groups about their problems and discussions.

Committee on Fertilizer

● Secretary Wickard also has named a committee to handle problems that may arise concerning fertilizers.

The men will work with WPB and OPA, through OADR, and consider ways to meet two pressing questions: In what areas can our available supplies of fertilizer be used to meet production needs? On what crops can our limited supply be used to the best advantage? This committee includes E. D. White, AACAA, Chairman; William F. Watkins, BAE; David Meeker, OWR; Arnon L. Mehring, BPI; James G. Maddox, FSA; Paul V. Kepner, Ext.

Women

(Continued from Page 1)

nually, 10 are women. This year, the Institute decided to choose the interns strictly on the merit basis—and of 50 interns, 18 are women.

"A survey has shown that women have not as yet been employed extensively in all positions for probably two reasons, prejudice and tradition."

The meeting, attended by 32 representatives of Department bureaus and divisions of the office of personnel, concluded that with ability and a little training, women can very satisfactorily replace men in this war emergency.

● T. Roy Reid, director of personnel, told USDA: "More than 3,000 men from the Department have joined the armed forces. Many other men with specialized training have been drawn into duties in other war agencies. Young men, from whom replacements would normally be made, are not available for filling these positions. There are women who have training which will qualify them to fill most of these posi-

tions who will give up their home duties during the emergency and take over while the men are gone. Let's find them and use them."

● Four Department committees are studying the problem of replacements. One of them is concentrating on replacing men with women; Miss Mary G. Lacy, assistant Department librarian, is its chairman, and other members are Mrs. Lennah Zens, BHE, and John Payne, CCC.

Women on Farms

Preparations to register women for war work are taking into account the fact that farm women are already doing just that.

J. C. Capt, director of the Census, was quoted: "Additional workers required for the war effort must be drawn mainly from the 28,700,000 women engaged in their own home housework, and especially from those in urban and rural nonfarm areas.

"Most of the farm housewives would have to remain on their jobs, especially since their daughters already are going into the cities to get jobs vacated by men going into the armed services. Farm housewives already have plenty to do."

4-H Mobilization Week

● More than 650,000 new 4-H Club members have enrolled in a National victory program. More than 900,000 farm boys and girls in clubs last year re-enrolled. Thousands gave pledges to grow gardens to supply farm home needs. Others promised to increase the number of hogs, chickens, dairy and beef cattle in 4-H Club projects and to start additional projects. Many pledged themselves to grow at least an acre of such needed crops as peanuts and soybeans.

The farm girls agreed to concentrate on home canning and other methods of food preservation; on repair and care of clothing; on health and family nutrition and other projects that contribute most to winning the war.

Total War

(Continued from Page 1)

American farmers can't produce too much of the oil crops this year—peanuts, soybeans, flaxseed. The Department is doing all it can to be sure that processing plants will be able to handle all that can be grown. Officials are confident of the outcome.

Many farmers put it this way: "Just tell us what the country needs. We'll produce it."

Example: Fayette County, Tenn., farmers assured the USDA War Board they will plant 2,200 acres of peanuts; last year they planted 200 acres.

Some people expect the Government to ask packers to conserve fat by means of trims at the plant. Housewives can ease the demand on commercial cooking fats by using meat drippings as much as possible.

Get the Good

● Wartime is no time to waste anything—certainly not good food from the store or the home victory garden.

To help drive home the principles of "getting the good" from every bit of food, the Bureau of Home Economics has prepared 10 charts that use brief captions and telling illustrations to highlight some of the major points of preparing and using food.

Some of the charts, widely used by home economists and extension workers to help in the national nutrition program, are reproduced on page 4 of this issue. Others will be printed later.

Pigs Is Pigs

● His two prize sows having produced 180 head of hogs in two years, Food for Freedom goals to John Jones of St. Francis County, Ark., are only an indication of what a good farmer can do.

Farmer Jones, who is buying his own farm under the FSA tenant purchase program, got two brood sows in 1939. By his own account, he "kept them well."

Come spring, 1940, and each farrowed large litters. Jones saved six gilts to farrow in the late fall. Early in 1941, one sow produced a litter of 14 and repeated her performance in January of this year. Jones has sold 125 head of hogs but still possesses his high-production sows as well as 63 assorted pigs.

Efficiency

● The State Experiment Station and Extension Service in Vermont cooperated to provide for farmers, truckers, and handlers an efficiency expert. He will help them organize transportation of milk to save tires, gasoline, trucks, and money.

● In Kentucky, more than 17,000 tons of scrap have been collected from farms and sold. At least 16 Kentucky tomato canneries are signing up contracts with producers and are planning to operate at capacity this year. Hemp seed production is virtually a State-wide program, 100 of the State's 120 counties enrolled. (Hemp goes into rope, and rope goes into ships.)

● Count to five, slowly. In those 5 seconds, American cows produced 9,000 quarts of milk—if they produced at the 1942 production goal rate, which is 108,000 quarts a minute, nearly 6,500,000 quarts an hour.

● More figures: It takes 169 acres of flaxseed (at 1941 yields) to produce the oil to paint a 35,000-ton battleship. Ten acres will paint a 2,000-ton destroyer, and 48 acres will paint a 10,000-ton cruiser. It takes 192 acres of soybeans to produce the oil to paint a 35,000-ton battleship. Eleven acres will paint a 2,000-ton destroyer, and 55 acres will paint a 10,000-ton cruiser. Oil is needed for other purposes, too, of course.

Get the Good... FROM YOUR FOOD



Stickum From Corn

• Supplies of tapioca cut off by the war in the Orient may be replaced by home-grown "waxy corn," a kind of corn with a special type of starch suitable for both food and industrial uses. One of the familiar uses of this starch is for the adhesive used on stamps and envelopes.

Development of this promising emergency crop for the Corn Belt has already reached the stage where the Department believes it can be put into commercial production by 1943. Preliminary breeding work on waxy corn has been under way since 1936 and it is now only a matter of increasing the available supply of seed to obtain the production needed.

Practically all the seed available now—less than 100 bushels—will be used for seed production this year. With normal growing conditions this should supply some grain for commercial production of the tapioca substitute in 1943, and the 1944 production probably should at least meet the need for a substitute for tapioca for necessary industrial uses. By 1945 the supply of first generation hybrid seed should be ample to also provide sufficient quantities for the food uses.

The Department is now growing a winter crop of foundation seed in the greenhouses at the Beltsville Research Center. The new corn, Waxy Iowa Hybrid 939, has been developed cooperatively by the Bureau of Plant Industry and the Iowa State Experiment Station.

• The original waxy corn came to the Department years ago from the Rev. J. M. W. Farnham, a missionary in China. It had no commercial value, and for years was grown mainly as a curiosity at several experiment stations.

A few years ago Dr. R. M. Hixon at the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station began studying the chemical characteristics of the starch from waxy strains of corn supplied by Department workers. These studies indicated that the starch

COMING EVENTS

• Soon—AACA will release its documentary film, *The Land*; Robert Flaherty, director and narrator.

• June 1—The closing date for signing 1942 farm plans in all cases except nonallotment farms in New Hampshire (June 30) and Maine (July). The 1942 program closes August 31, except in New Jersey (October 31) and Vermont (June 30).

of the waxy corn had properties more similar to those of the starches from root crops than the starches commonly obtained from the cereal crops.

• It appeared that the starch from waxy corn might have special commercial value and in the winter of 1936-37, Dr. M. T. Jenkins, now in charge of corn investigations in the Department, set about producing a waxy hybrid suitable for growing in the Corn Belt. Iowa Hybrid 939 was selected for conversion to waxy because of its wide adaptation, and its 4 parent inbred lines were crossed with a waxy strain.

Since then the waxy strains of the four lines have been backcrossed to the parent lines to regain their qualities of a good commercial corn and at the same time retain the waxy endosperm.

Under normal conditions this program of back-crossing would have been continued in the field and in the greenhouse for a year or two more. Since Pearl Harbor, however, the immediate need for the best available substitute for tapioca has centered the work on getting waxy corn into production as soon as possible, and seed multiplication is being rushed.

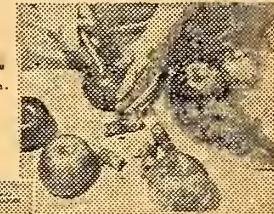


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Get the Good... FROM FRUIT



2

Guayule

• Rapid progress in the guayule rubber production project is reported by the Forest Service. Seed sowing for 500 acres of nursery beds near Salinas, Calif., started the last week of March, plowing and disk ing of the nursery beds, and soil surveys and maps having been completed. Sowing will follow progressively behind installation of irrigation systems in the nursery.

Alcohol

• The Commodity Credit Corporation contracted for sale before April 30 of 5,500,000 bushels of corn and 238,000 bushels of wheat for manufacture of alcohol and acetone. The Corporation previously offered to make 60,000,000 bushels of Government-owned corn and wheat available for conversion to industrial alcohol.

Salvage

• Reports from 38 States are that by the end of March more than 870,000 tons of scrap iron had moved into trade channels through War Board sponsorship. The 38 States also estimated that more than 615,000 tons of scrap yet remained on farms.

• A "MacArthur Day" scrap drive of the Georgia War Board brought in 12,211,000 pounds of scrap in one day and 18,650,000 pounds for the week climaxed by the day—proof of the value of concerted effort and first-class promotion in war work.

Farm Garden

• A Missouri farm family had a \$246.11 profit last year from an acre of vegetables grown for family use. To provide a variety, 19 kinds of vegetables were grown and eaten. Besides the fresh vegetables used, 418 quarts were canned and 45 bushels stored. The value of fresh vegetables eaten was \$99.71, canned \$106.30, and stored \$40.10.

U S D A



June 5, 1942, Volume I, Number 8

Buy Victory Food Specials

Even if you work at an adding machine and live 10 stories above ground in a New York apartment, by purchasing Victory Food Specials you can help to conserve and increase the total United States wartime food supply just as much as if you raised part of your own food.

When lettuce wilts in the store before it can be sold, other lettuce is left to rot in the fields. In wartime we can't afford such waste. Accordingly, the Department is cooperating with the wholesalers and retailers to push the sale of those products which because of abundance would otherwise be left unharvested and permitted to waste.

If every employee of the Department—especially those living in cities and towns—cooperates and spreads the facts among his neighbors, it will help enormously.

Let's get the story straight. These products will be Victory Food Specials, not permanently, but only for specific periods of heaviest supply. The purpose is to prevent waste at a time when it is most likely to take place.

First Victory Food Specials designated by AMA were lettuce and onions. Others which may be coming up soon are early potatoes, early peaches, and California plums, broilers, and fryers. Watch the newspapers, radio programs, and ads in stores. To the extent that you favor Victory Food Specials you'll be releasing other food for the Army and Navy and our Allies. It's the same principle as weeding your Victory Garden—and a lot less trouble.

POST-WAR PLANNING

- Post-war planners in the Department last month staked out a program that they hope will lead to a comprehensive survey of work to be done after the war.

Under the leadership of Roy I. Kimmel of BAE, who has recently conducted dozens of conferences on agricultural reconstruction throughout the country, the post-war committees are reorienting their work into 14 specific subjects within the framework of rural facilities, agricultural-industrial relations, and agricultural resources.

WATCH FOR THIS SIGN



More Bin-Building Wanted

A higher court upheld the decision of the American wheat farmers who voted by a large majority last month in favor of continuing wheat quotas. To nearly a year's supply, Nature is apparently adding a bumper crop in the great wheat States. Last year Nebraska produced 34 million bushels; this year, she may produce 50 million. North Dakota, assuming a normal crop, will have 118 million bushels. The grain elevators can handle only a part of it. Much wheat will have to be stored on the farm. But how?

In the northern Great Plains region, some enterprising builders, their usual work eliminated by WPB restrictions on ordinary building, are offering prefabricated granaries, in sections, to hold 1,000 to 1,200 bushels.

Elsewhere builders are invited to turn their talents to helping solve this immediate war problem. Bins can be built well within the financial limit allowed for new farm construction, using lumber, concrete, and other materials still available. The Commodity Credit Corporation will buy bins for use in the heavy wheat-producing States; interested firms and individuals should write the Washington office of the CCC for information.

You Must Know Why

If a farmer walked in your office today and asked why the Government wants more soybeans or hemp, could you tell him? Would you ask him to wait until you asked your supervisor? Would your supervisor know?

"Yes; but no farmers enter my office. I work in Chicago." Even so, it is part of your job, because it is part of the Department's job, to disseminate accurate basic information about agriculture's job in the war. Radio, press, and publications cannot do it all. This country is too big—there are about 30 million farm people, and more than 100 million nonfarm consumers. The job won't be done right until the public generally understands why certain war crops are needed to beat the Axis, just as the public already knows why our steel and rubber must go into munitions of war.

We need additional fats and oils, because the Japs nicked our supplies of these from the Far East just as truly, although not as disastrously, as they nicked our supplies of rubber and tin. Flax is needed for linseed oil, to paint battleships, cantonments. Hemp, to make ropes for the Army and Navy. Soybeans and peanuts for the wheels of war industry and for food.

Food for Freedom, needed for the Army, Navy, and Allies, is essentially the same compact, ship-saving foods first announced over 1 year ago—dairy, poultry, and pork products, canned fruits and vegetables, especially tomatoes and peas, dry edible beans. Stepped-up American production and lend-lease shipments of these foods have already helped prevent our defeat by providing a margin of strength for the British people, during the period before we entered the war.

Now we must continue to aid Britain, and enormous Russia too (where much of the farmlands are still infested with Nazis) and China, while we supply our vast-and-growing Army and Navy all over the world.

We must do all this, and more.

We must have food on hand for Red Cross distribution to innocent suffering people where that is possible. We must be ready to strengthen the half-starved survivors of Hitler's conquests as fast as our Armies free them—so that they too can join the fight.

The hope of obtaining Food for Freedom is one reason why the underfed masses in Germany, Italy, and Japan will some day overthrow the war lords. American farmers are helping to speed the day. And we must have stock piles of food on hand for the peace conference, because food will write the peace.

Thus the agricultural job in the war, as directly as the factory and fighting jobs, reaches into every American home. But recent reports indicate an additional reason why USDA workers need to keep informed and to help inform others.

What Farmers Think

The Department has used prices, under congressional authorization, as a lever for getting increased production of what's needed. Yet there is good evidence that the most important consideration from the standpoint of the farmer is the need for a particular product to help win the war. Also there is evidence that when prices of strategic products drop temporarily, due perhaps to local or regional conditions, farmers in those regions take that as an indication that increased production is no longer needed.

Thus it is important for all farm people to understand *why* the country needs fats and oils and Food for Freedom. When this has been made abundantly clear, production will continue uninterrupted even through those temporary price fluctuations beyond control of the Department. Patriotism means more to farmers than price.

What Consumers Think

The same sort of continuing education must explain agriculture's war job to consumers. Consumers should know that the Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment program stimulates production of things we do need, while restraining wasteful overproduction of things like wheat, of which we have a 2-year supply when this year's crop is harvested.

Consumers should know that farmers are piling one all-time record production on top of another—1940, 1941, 1942—but that the growing demands of the war are so huge that there may not always be enough of everything to go around. Nobody is going hungry in America, but everybody is going to have to adjust certain eating habits.

Thus one or more phases of this unending informational campaign becomes part of your job as a USDA worker, whether your office windows look out on green fields or a city street.

Only a few of us serve on the USDA State or County War Boards. But all of us are in the war.

"Food will win the war and write the peace"—if enough Americans on farms and in cities understand why.

• Eric Knight in a recent magazine article, quoted Sir John Orr, British nutritional scientist: "Whether food will win the war or not, I don't know." But only food can build a peace. There can't be too much food. Only too many bad ways of directing it. America,

Canada—none of 'em really grow too much food for the Universal human need." Mr. Knight adds: "In Britain, men are seeing food as Raw Material No. 1 in the peace to come, as well as in the war that is."

FARM LABOR

Thousands of businessmen are organizing through chambers of commerce, luncheon clubs, etc., for volunteer farm labor when nearby farmers ask it. (Interested businessmen in your town should ask the chairman of the county USDA War Board. You can help to locate him.)

• The USDA War Board for York County, Maine, reports that workingmen are also voluntarily registering for farm labor, during the hours when they are not employed in the plant. Charles Downs, president of the Sanford, Maine, local of the Woolen and Worsted Workers of American A. F. of L., reported that the 850 members had voted unanimously to support the proposed plan. Probably 250 would be able to work an average of a day a week on a farm. Similar offers have been made by locals of the A. F. of L. and the C. I. O. in Biddulph, Saco, and Portland, Maine.

There's been a century of pious talk about farmers and labor getting together but these heart-warming offers are worth ten thousand speeches. M. A. Huberman, of the Forest Service, was instrumental in getting the plan started at a meeting of the York County War Board.

• A ranch near Birney, Mont., notified its "dude" customers that until further notice dude ranching is out in favor of production goals. Its biggest 1942 goal is to market 666,000 pounds of beef, although six ranch hands already are in armed forces.

• The two sons of Mrs. Cora C. Bowser of Slipper Rock, Pa., joined the Navy. Her husband, a veteran of World War I, volunteered for active service again. Now she is running their 80-acre farm herself.

• In a New York City skyscraper is the office of the Volunteer Land Corps, recruiting young men and women to work on Vermont farms at soldiers' pay—\$21 per month.

Why Forest Fires?

"Forest Fires Delay Victory," says a poster Forest Service employees are tacking up throughout the Nation. In 1942 through the middle of May 3,870 fires were reported in the National Forests, compared with only 3,076 last year. In some sections which suffered severely, notably western North Carolina and Rhode Island, incendiaries were definitely to blame. Sabotage was suspected in some cases, but for the country as a whole it is too easy an answer. While FS employees in some localities

left their offices to join the volunteer fire-fighting brigades, officials in Washington conferred with a committee of psychologists appointed by the National Academy of Sciences to help the Service solve its human relations problems in forest conservation—including the ancient mystery of why firebugs deliberately set fires, and why otherwise law-abiding citizens continue recklessly to burn off woodlands.

Despite the increased number of fires, however, so far in 1942 only 0.11 percent of the total National Forest acreage was devastated compared with 0.28 percent in the like period of 1941. Officials thanked their stars, the weather, improved equipment, and the extra wartime vigilance of the spotters and rangers.

LEADERS AND TEACHERS

In the education of rural people to meet war needs, the training of local neighborhood leaders now is in the spotlight.

The tremendous job of explaining the new plan to control the cost of living will be a stiff test for the neighborhood leaders—a program, being set up in every State, in which one man and one woman leader work with from 12 to 20 families in a neighborhood.

• Extension experience has shown that when a good educational program is carried out through newspapers, radio, and meetings, about one-half of the people will respond from newspaper, the radio, or meetings. The other half need the stimulation of a face-to-face meeting. The plan of having minute men and women for each 12 to 20 families has proved effective in Massachusetts in influencing another 25 percent on such programs as ordering machine repair parts. Other States report like success. In Iowa, a system of educational cooperators for each school district of about 16 families was about 82 percent effective.

• Between April 13 and 27, the Field Coordination staff of the Extension Service visited 44 of the 48 States to discuss this plan of neighborhood leadership. Many States were well along with their plans. In New York State, the leaders, 16,000 of them, were enrolled on the anniversary of Paul Revere's ride, April 18. The Paul Revere symbol was used on the official badge of the leader and on the special letterheads which carried instructions to leaders.

The Minnesota nutrition program built around *Feed the Farm Family for Health, Morale, and Victory* has trained 7,200 leaders in a few simple fundamentals of good nutrition. R. E. McMillan, county agent in Koochiching County, just before he left to join the armed forces, wrote enthusiastically of the work in that border county, where more than three-fourths of all the fam-

lies received some help with problems of food value and better food habits. Grocers told him that sales of fresh vegetables and fruits increased about 25 percent as a result.

• Delaware, particularly awake to the danger of fire, is starting neighborhood leaders, about 2,000 of them, on the job of fire protection. Massachusetts is working on a labor survey that will give exact information on how much labor will be needed by each farmer and when it will be needed. The State Employment Service is enthusiastic about this study.

Various names have been used or suggested of these leaders. Iowa calls them "educational cooperators"; New York, Massachusetts, Arkansas, and other States, "minutemen," New Jersey has suggested "10 men" and "10 women," while Bill Gordon of Rhode Island suggests "Victory Neighbor." Delaware is considering the title "Extension Aids."

Organization to meet the danger of farm fires is rapidly getting under way in several States. California has more than 1,800 trained, volunteer farm fire companies. Michigan is putting on an intensive campaign with the slogan "Don't Feed a Fire" to teach farm families and town people how to remove fire hazards.

• West Virginia, with 5,000 neighborhood leaders trained in presenting the Victory Garden idea, held 1,250 meetings for 25,000 farm people. One county agent said, "We've reached the last farm up the hollow with Victory Gardens."

In Georgia

• Following the Secretary's announcement of 1942 FfF goals, and the pledges made by the farmers of Georgia through their farm plan sheets, the Negro Extension and Vocational Education leaders of Georgia developed plans by which an effort would be made to reach every Negro farm family in the State.

In all Georgia counties where there is a substantial Negro farm population, a county advisory Food for Freedom board was set up. This board was made up of representatives of Federal and State agencies dealing with problems relating to agriculture and education.

The next step in the organization plan was to procure neighborhood leaders or captains for Food for Freedom who would accept the responsibility of assisting their neighbors in attaining their garden, milk, eggs, and meat goals, and the production of sufficient feed for these purposes; 1,006 such neighborhood leaders have responded to the call for volunteers. They are enthusiastically carrying on their work and making reports of progress and accomplishments regularly.

• During April 1942, AMA purchases of American farm products for lend-lease shipment to the United Nations soared to \$193,000,000, an increase of some \$90,000,000 over the previous high, in March.

MANAGEMENT COLUMN

Rotate or Stay Home

Rotation is a good old USDA word usually applied to crops. Last month the Department applied it also to automobiles. A system worked out in the Office of Personnel, for pooling employees' cars to get them to work and home again, was adopted by the Council of Personnel Administration on which the other Federal agencies are represented.

Briefly, the plan (which may also be useful in many field offices) is this: All employees are polled by the personnel office on their home address and present method of getting to work, and grouped into neighborhood units of 5 or 10, with a captain for each. The captain gets the names of these group members from the personnel office and rounds them up to start rotating. You can rotate driving, of course, with anybody in or out of the Department. Group captains report back to the central office which keeps the records and can thus serve as a permanent clearing-house for employees wanting transportation.

• In Washington W. A. Jump, Director of Budget and Finance, rotates in from Northwest Washington with W. G. Mehl, Harry Reed, and Paul Williams of AMA. Joshua Bernhard, Chief of the Sugar Agency, alternates with Robert E. Tyler, of the Solicitor's Office, from Chevy Chase, Md. T. Roy Reid, Director of Personnel, takes turns with Harry Dunkelberger of the same office, and Henry A. Donovan, assistant chief, BACE, is in a group with I. W. Duggan, of AAA, Morris Storer and Ralph Rogers, of BAE, all in the same neighborhood of D. C., NW.

• Main idea, of course, is to comply with President Roosevelt's request of April 28, to Secretary Wickard: "It is imperative that we extend as long as possible that period of time in which we can count on private transportation of factory and office workers to their places of work and home again." Thus car owners who fill their cars with others bound for work are no slackers, but are relieving the strain on public transit systems.

There are also incidental benefits. Joint commuting by workers from different offices speeds the informal, inter-agency contacts which are sometimes of great value. Not infrequently the families of the group members begin rotating, too, on necessary errands.

USDA clubs and other employees wanting more detailed information on the plan may obtain it from Ira Price in the Office of Personnel, Washington.

Busman's Holiday

USDA's editor took his annual leave early this year, spent part of it traveling by local train and bus on a sort

of busman's holiday, visiting a number of field offices at random. Some were getting their copies of USDA, others not. A stenographer, asked what she did with it, answered righteously, "I file it." * * * Please don't. Pass it on in your office and to the office across the hall until it is worn out or returned to the paper mills in a scrap collection. Many Bureau publications must be discontinued for economy, and less than enough copies of this news-sheet can be printed for all. * * * In a large city office few CAF-2's or 3's had seen it, while the division chief held a batch of copies on his desk, waiting a convenient moment to dictate an "accompanying memo" to his staff. Will you hand around USDA promptly and without formality until copies reach all our men and women, especially those on lone assignments in the field? Thanks.

Field-Hand Notes

The vast Department at work: In New Hampshire and Vermont last month you couldn't catch an Extension agent in his office; they were all out holding milk route meetings to save tires * * * In western North Carolina, Forest Service men were out fighting forest fires * * * A mountain farmer on the train said he's raising 10 acres of beans this year under contract to a cooperative cannery, at a dollar a bushel: as good as the usual price for sale in the fresh market * * * Erosion's gradually coming under control. "It seems like lots of folks been setting out trees in recent years." You still see steep hills being plowed for corn, but at least no furrows running up and down * * * You also see many a farmer untroubled by gasoline, rubber, or machinery shortages, plowing with oxen * * * Two signs of Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment visible from every train in every State: white piles of lime in the fields and contour cultivation where the land is sloping. The Department hasn't made America over, but it's helped to change its face * * *

In the Southeast, a home demonstration agent reported holding a Victory Garden meeting for a group of singularly unresponsive women: it turned out they had lived always where smelter fumes had denuded the earth of vegetation and they didn't know what a garden was * * * In Mississippi, a county AAA chairman wished the editor could help solve an allotment tangle caused by two farmers with the same name, neither of whom could write * * * The editor hurried on. In Chicago, E&PQ employees standing by moving conveyor belts in the world's largest parcel-post center select those packages which contain nursery stock and possible insect enemies by a sort of sixth sense you couldn't explain on a Civil Service examination * * * First down: In Paris, Ark., a tractor was hauling off a fine car, down to its rims. Mr. Delzell, a regional FSA supervisor, took the editor to lunch here at a boarding house where 28 kinds of food, all delicious and no holds barred, were set on the table for 50 cents * * * What do you need with a car in Paris, Ark.?

Wallace Calls War “People’s Revolution”

Vice President Henry A. Wallace, in a speech before the Free World Association on May 8, proclaimed this war a 150-year-old People's Revolution which aims at peace and not violence.

The former Secretary of Agriculture's talk was far reaching in its implications. Many USDA workers will be able to read between the lines of this great speech a belief that the goal which has inspired the Department in peacetime is the same for which freemen now fight on every battle front.

Some excerpts:

When the freedom-loving people march * * * when the farmers have an opportunity to buy land at reasonable prices and to sell the produce of their land through their own organizations, when workers have the opportunity to form unions and bargain through them collectively, and when the children of all the people have an opportunity to attend schools which teach them truths of the real world in which they live * * * when these opportunities are open to everyone, then the world moves straight ahead.

The march of freedom of the past 150 years have been a long-drawn-out people's revolution * * *. No Nazi counter-revolution will stop it. The common man will smoke the Hitler stooges out into the open in the United States, in Latin America, and in India. He will destroy their influence. No Laval's, no Mussolinis will be tolerated in a Free World * * *

We who live in the United States may think there is nothing very revolutionary about freedom of religion, freedom of expression and freedom from the fear of secret police. But when we begin to think about the significance of freedom from want for the average man, then we know that the revolution of the past 150 years has not been completed, either here in the United States or in any other nation in the world. We know that this revolution cannot stop until freedom from want has actually been attained.

Modern science, which is a byproduct and an essential part of the people's revolution, has made it technologically possible to see that all of the people of the world get enough to eat. Half in fun and half seriously, I said the other day to Mme. Litvinoff: "The object of this war is to make sure that everybody in the world has the privilege of drinking a quart of milk a day." She replied: "Yes, even half a pint."

The peace must mean a better standard of living for the common man, not merely in the United States and England, but also in India, Russia, China, and Latin America—not merely in the United Nations, but also in Germany and Italy and Japan.

Saving Rubber

• Kenneth H. Hyde, FSA supervisor, at Independence, Iowa, writes:

"For some time I had been thinking of using a motorcycle for farm visits when weather conditions and roads were favorable. This emergency and tire situation hastened my decision, and I purchased the machine about a month ago. It is a second-hand 1935 model with two good tires.

"Motorcycles are light and not very hard on tires when used sensibly. They are economical to run, ordinarily traveling 50 miles to a gallon of gasoline, and they are handy to cut across county on dead roads, along fence lines or in pastures when making inspection trips. I plan to use it as much of the time as possible when the Home Supervisor is in her other territory, and in this way save the tires on my car."

• Extension agents are using many ways to save tires and gasoline. In Grafton County, N. H., the three agents have bought bicycles which they carry in the back of one of the agents' car to a central point. Each agent then pedals his way to his particular appointment. In some of the hill counties of Arkansas agents are returning to circuit-rider routines spending the night in communities along the route of a comprehensive circle tour through the county, or have horses at their disposal and are planning to ride to their appointment on horseback.

Rubber From the Granary

While additional wheat acreage is emphatically not needed, the Ever-Normal Granary reserves of wheat on hand loom more and more as a godsend. Here is an enormous supply of food and feed. Here is grain for alcohol for the manufacture of explosives in place of alcohol made from sugar. Here too, according to Secretary Wickard, is a potential resource for increasing our production of synthetic rubber.

After a recent visit to the Department's regional research laboratory at Peoria, where much progress is being made in exploring the manufacture of rubber substitutes from plentiful farm products, Mr. Wickard said, "I believe that use of our reserve stocks of corn and wheat as raw material for butadiene offers the best possibility of greatly increasing our production of synthetic rubber as early as next year."

Thus by three main methods—the accumulation of grain reserves convertible into alcohol and other materials from which synthetic rubber can be made, the planting of guayule in the West, and the encouragement of rubber plantations in Latin America, the Department of Agriculture is assisting in meeting the rubber shortage.

Meanwhile, the civilian's job is to conserve rubber and turn in every piece of scrap rubber he can find around the house for reclaiming.



June 20, 1942, Volume I, Number 9

Wickard Heads Nation's Food Committee

Under the new Food Requirements Committee, established within the War Production Board on June 5, the Department of Agriculture works in close harness with other Federal agencies. The Committee, of which Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard, is chairman, will determine civilian, military and foreign food requirements and has authority to step up or limit the domestic production of foods as well as the importation of foods and agricultural materials from which foods are derived. Committee decisions will be final, subject to the over-all direction and approval of the War Production Board.

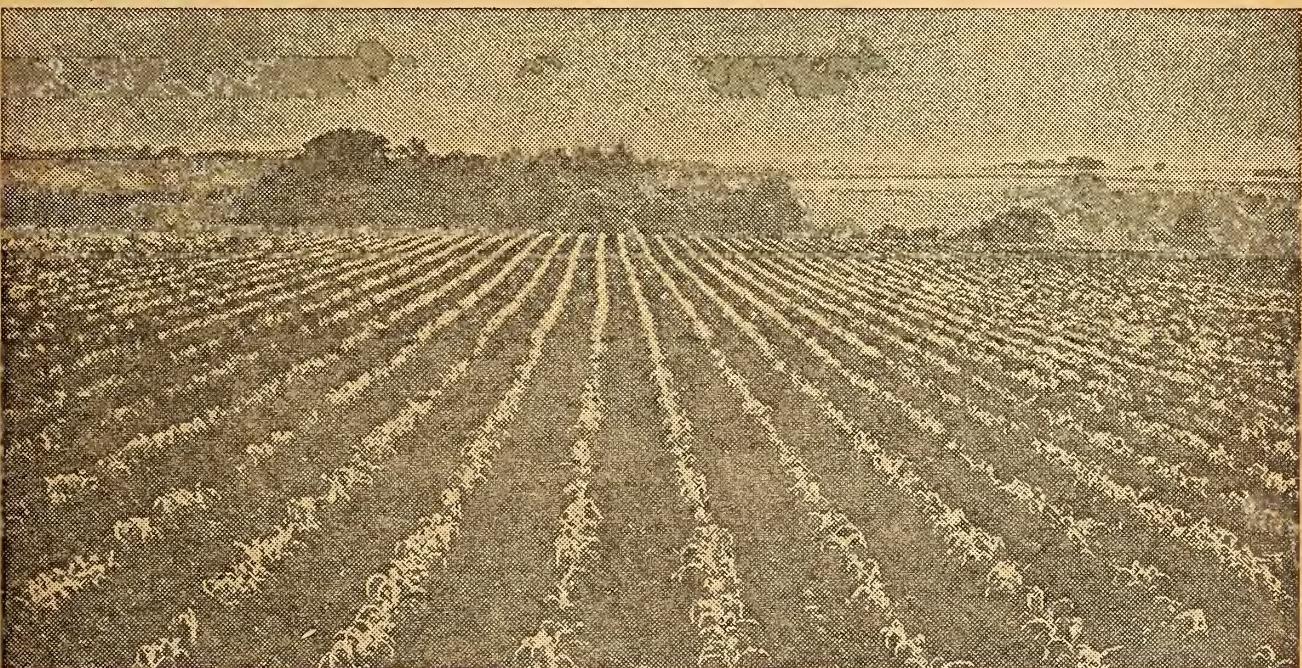
Our Job Under the Committee

The Department of Agriculture is responsible for (1) increasing or limit-

ing agricultural production in accordance with decisions of the Committee; (2) the earlier stages of food production in general; (3) the importation of foods and agricultural materials from which foods are derived (this job has been assigned to the Commodity Credit Corporation); and (4) formulating programs to conserve critical foods or agricultural materials from which foods are derived.

Food rationing is still administered by OPA. The Division of Industry Operations of the WPB is responsible for the later stages of food production in general, such as baking and the manufacture of candy and soft drinks. The Materials Division of WPB is responsible in general for the processing of nonfoods—for example, soap—derived from agricultural materials which are a source of food.

To guide the committee in reaching its decisions, each Government agency concerned with the production or use of food acts as a channel of information. The Department of Agriculture reports regularly to the Committee on the progress of domestic food production and, after consulting with the State Department and the Board of Economic Warfare, on the import programs as they are formulated. War and Navy report to the Committee on their wartime food requirements, the Division of Civilian Supply tells how much of what foods are needed on the home front, and the Division of Industry Operations of WPB reports on stocks of nonfood materials, such as cotton and rubber, which are processed from agricultural materials. BEW and Lend-Lease, together with State, will estimate the food requirements of our allies.



The 1942 corn crop, according to preliminary estimates, should yield $2\frac{1}{2}$ billion bushels. Next fall, despite increasing use of corn reserves the Nation will carry over an estimated 500,000,000 bushels from previous years (enough to provide 10 pounds of pork for each inhabitant of France). Farmers and those who work with farmers see in the corn the symbol of America's abundance.

We Work With the Others

The establishment of the Committee increases the importance of the work done by USDA employees. Our Department is now tied in more closely than ever with the other agencies of the Government concerned with this basic material for warfare. Establishment of the Committee met the wartime need for a centralized body which will have power to direct and handle the food problem in close relation to the other complicated problems raised by the war production effort.

The members of the committee named by Donald Nelson, Chairman of WPB, and their agencies are: Chairman, Claude R. Wickard, Secretary of Agriculture; L. S. Stinehower, State; Brig. Gen. Carl A. Hardigg, War; Rear Admiral W. B. Young, Navy; W. B. Parker, BEW; Dr. John Orchard, Lend-Lease; Roland S. Vaile, Division of Civilian Supply, WPB; Douglas C. Townsend, Division of Industry Operations, WPB; and T. L. Daniels, Materials Division, WPB.

Farmers Lead Rubber Drive

Farmers, who led the Nation in collecting scrap metal, also took an early lead over the city folks in the intensive rubber scrap drive which ends July 1. President Roosevelt gave USDA War Boards the job of getting scrap rubber from farms to filling stations, Secretary Wickard followed with immediate instructions, and Department field agents promptly telephoned, wrote postcards, somehow reached every American farm.

• Four Bureaus of the Department, BDI, E&PQ, FSA, and SCS, have now turned in 237 tons of scrap metal, 11 tons of rubber, hundreds of old batteries and other valuable salvage from their offices in Washington and the field, with net proceeds for the Treasury Department of almost \$17,000. This drive, too, will continue. Look around home, office, or shop, see what you can find.

War Movies

Besides "Democracy in Action" and "The Land," now being shown, at least four new films are under way to help farmers with their job. Release dates cannot yet be announced. Meanwhile, however, the State War Boards have 16 mm. sound prints of short subjects produced by the Office of Emergency Management. Many city audiences have seen these but they will be new to some rural areas. Also being distributed through State War Boards are two British "documentaries" which show the mighty effort of British farmers. (Several of the Department's films about American agriculture have been sent to England, where they have been shown to enthusiastic audiences.)

Not every State War Board will be able to show all these films simultaneously, but any State Board will gladly tell which are available locally.

The Department is also making efforts to secure Latin American, Australian, and other United Nations movies of particular interest to American farmers.

Complete Victory Must End Underconsumption

Milo Perkins, former Marketing Administrator in USDA and now executive director of the Board of Economic Warfare, believes with Vice President Wallace that the war is only part of a greater struggle. "This is a long, long fight to make a mass-production economy work," he said in a speech at Swarthmore, Pa., on May 25.

These two spokesmen of abundance who have come from our Department point the way toward the sort of world farmers can live in after the war. It is part of winning the war for the people of the United Nations to understand their potentialities for the peace to follow. Some day this knowledge and hope will even reach the people of the Axis.

Because of the implications for agriculture in the post-war world in what Mr. Perkins says, these excerpts from his speech will be of particular interest to USDA employees:

Our minds are now creating neat little time compartments labeled pre-war, war, and post-war, but these are like the labels of childhood, youth, and manhood to the individual who lives through them. This is a single and continuous struggle to achieve one goal. Complete victory will not be won until there is a full and increasing use of the world's resources to lift living standards from one end of this planet to the other. * * *

Men lost their battle to avoid this war. It was lost primarily because the world was unable to distribute what it had learned how to produce. This failure was as true of trade within countries as it was of trade between countries. The nightmare of underconsumption was the black plague of the pre-war era. We put up with a civilization which was commodity-rich but consumption-poor too long to avert the present catastrophe.

The plain people will be understanding about the problems of readjustment. They will work hard for all this and they will walk any reasonable roads to these ends. But the chains of the ages have snapped. The one thing they won't do is to take "no" for a final answer to their cry for full employment. * * *

These are times of great crisis, but we needn't be terrified by them. The Chinese write the word crisis with two characters, one of which means "dan-

ger" and the other "opportunity." That's worth remembering.

Of course there are changes ahead but this evolutionary progress need not destroy our system of private enterprise. On the contrary, those changes can provide an environment in which industrial capitalism can be strengthened enormously. We have it in us to measure up to this job of maintaining full employment. The war is toughening us for the greatest conquest men have ever faced—the conquest of backwardness and unnecessary poverty. We are learning to live like men who are conquerors to the core.

What does all this mean to us as individuals? It means that our personal fortunes will be tied to what happens to groups of other men in this world as those fortunes never were in the past. It means that what today does to us as individuals is probably not very important. What is important is what we do with tomorrow by way of keeping the whole world at work on all-out production for a century to come. If we can lose ourselves wholeheartedly in that job, we shall find personal completeness as men have never found it before.

WHEAT STORAGE

Corn Bins Hold Wheat

Glimpse of a Nation running full blast: With intensive feeding of hogs and poultry and the rising demand for industrial alcohol, the corn carry-over, while still large, has been rapidly dwindling. Many steel bins erected by the Commodity Credit Corporation to hold the surplus corn of recent years (and marked "Ever-Normal Granary") can now be used to help Kansas farmers store their wheat. Driving as fast as the law allows to avert the danger that Kansas farmers may have to spill wheat on the ground, hundreds of trucks have been moving bins from the Corn Belt for storage, coming back with loads of Kansas wheat.

• Lumber may now be sold for building grain bins. But builders should not delay. The Army may take as much as one-third of the entire annual lumber production within the next 6 months.

• An idea which has filtered up to Washington through the ACAA organization is to use any now-empty filling stations and unoccupied store buildings in small towns to store wheat. Many filling stations are so constructed that the office could be converted to bin storage.

FOOD FOR FREEDOM

● In several States borrowers from the Farm Security Administration who reach their Food for Freedom goals this year will receive a "Merit Award" certificate, signed by Administrator C. B. Baldwin and the FSA regional director, and quoting President Roosevelt's statement on the Four Freedoms.

● For generations, the French-Indian Houma folks have lived in forgotten isolation amid the Louisiana bayous. On the tiny island of Isle de Jean Charles, some 180 persons had no communication with the outside world except by barge and motor boat. A recent newspaper story on the Food-for-Freedom campaign started by FSA among the Houma people brought them to the attention of State and Federal agencies. The Senate Appropriations Committee has approved an item of \$6,900 to assist in establishing in Terrebonne a school for Indians.

Eggs

A new dried egg plant in Tennessee, one of eighty in the Nation, is breaking and drying 1,000 cases of eggs a day, furnishing an added egg market for farmers in a 200-mile radius.

● Largely because of the National Poultry Improvement Plan, seven American hens lay more eggs now than nine hens did in 1909.

Milk

Dr. George E. Holm, one of the Department's senior dairy chemists who was presented with the 1942 Borden award at the Spring meeting of the American Chemical Society, and his associates are now assisting other Government agencies in perfecting methods which will enable USDA to provide whole milk powder this year. That's as useful as building ships. Canned milk takes about half as much space as whole milk but the whole milk powder requires only one tenth the space.

Peanuts, Quick

Last year Oklahoma had 106,000 acres of peanuts—a bumper crop. First goal set for 1942 was 159,000 acres; this was revised in January, after the Japs cut off our oil supplies from the Orient, to 312,000 acres. But according to a survey just completed, Oklahoma has actually planted 399,000 acres. Tokyo, try again.

Market Fat Pigs, Early

Secretary Wickard on the Farm and Home Hour appealed to farmers to push their pigs as much as possible in order to market them early, avoiding the period of peak shipments between Thanksgiving Day and Washington's Birthday, when the railroads and trucks and the packing plants will be under heavy strain. He cautioned, however, against selling the hogs when they are

light in weight, because we need every pound of pork and lard we can get.

"I give my pigs all they want to eat all the time," he said. "They go to market averaging about 250 pounds when they are around 7 months of age. I have now about 550 spring pigs on full feed of corn and protein supplement. They are in alfalfa which is about knee high. I hope to sell them when they weigh 250 pounds or more, in September or October."

Are You Listening?

If someone in your office has a portable radio, or if you go home for lunch, listen to the Secretary of Agriculture each Friday on the Blue Network, at 12:30 p. m., E. W. T. All summer Mr. Wickard will continue this National Farm and Home Hour series of comments on wartime circumstances and events affecting farmers and homemakers. There's no better way for USDA workers, too, to keep informed and to become acquainted with their wartime chief, a farmer who speaks farmers' language.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

Back Again

Under Secretary Paul H. Appleby returned last month from England and told Department workers in Washington of his experiences there. With British and American officials he was assigned to work out more ship-saving techniques in the whole range of British and American production, processing, transportation, and consumption of food. None of the changes by itself will be revolutionary but taken together, they will save hundreds of thousands of tons of shipping space. On our side of the water, there is new emphasis on dehydrated foods for Lend-Lease shipments. As to rumors of British exports—"Yes, we are exporting food and tobacco in large quantities—but only to our armed forces throughout the



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world," quietly remarked a British official.

Appleby was as much impressed with the new spirit which is abroad in Britain as with material problems. A faith in the ability of the democracies "this time" to work out a way of distributing the world's abundance seems deep-rooted, he reported, in all classes of Britishers, even those who yesterday were stand-patters. The average Britisher puts much emphasis on the need for international cooperation. "We have to get together when war comes," a plain citizen said to Appleby. "And war comes because we don't stay together between the wars. Do you think America will work with us after this war?"

The Good Neighbors' Cows

For years, Department experts in rubber, drugs, and other strategic products have assisted Latin American nations to increase their production. Recently Nelson Rockefeller, Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, asked the Department also to send down technologists to start a survey of the dairy industries in the Caribbean, Central and South American countries, in response to the wishes of their Governments. Promptly, BDI dispatched Dr. O. F. Hunziker and Dr. R. E. Hodgson.

Like our own Southern States, some of the Latin American republics have long wrestled with a deficiency in dairy production, and they have had their difficulties in human nutrition, as have we. From now on, we work together.

Add Post-War Planning

R. B. Gray, of BACE's Tillage Machinery Laboratory at Auburn, Ala., has found that an Army jeep can hardly pull a plowshare. In tests he discovered that a jeep did good work in plowing, harrowing, and other light farm operations.

FARM LABOR

● Copies of Enlist in the Vacation Corps, leaflet for town and city youngsters willing to work on farms this summer, are still available. USDA employees who can make effective use of them should write to their State AAA office or to the Division of Information, Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, Washington, D. C., stating the number desired.

● Director of Defense Transportation Eastman has asked eight major railroads serving the Southwest to spread their maintenance-of-way work so that peak railway labor needs will cease to conflict with peak demands for farm workers.

● According to recent surveys in Virginia, the average farmer's workday is 11½ hours, and more women and children are helping with farm work.

● A Minneapolis newspaper carried a new sort of picture spread in its society section, showing a farm woman able to tend a bigger flock of chickens because a city woman went out and helped take care of her children.

USDA Workers Aid Newspaper

In February 1942 the Pratt, Kansas USDA Club started a new kind of newspaper, the monthly *Pratt County Farmer*.

The editorial contents are supplied entirely by the local agricultural agencies in Pratt County. The publisher of the local *Daily Tribune*, who prints the *Farmer*, receives sufficient revenue from advertising to print and distribute free of charge a copy to all farm operators or landlords in the county.

Although public agencies supply the contents, this monthly has the style and flavor of a real farm newspaper.

For example, it is reported by the FSA supervisor that "Mr. and Mrs. James Lawhead are getting 100 eggs daily from their hens. They have lost only 9 of the 398 Leghorn chicks which they bought a month ago." Another office "would like to know who borrowed the office rat gun and vaccinating syringe." A cut shows Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Utt digging a storage cave for their winter food.

Columns are contributed by the home demonstration agent, the local forester, the AAA chairman, specialists at the State College, and others. National topics of especial concern to local people, such as the wheat storage situation and the need for more eggs rather than broilers, are discussed along with the local drive of the county commissioners to rid the county of bindweed, and a septic tank demonstration.

These headlines from the May issue suggest its contents:

Wheat Quota Vote Will be on May 2d.

Ernest Reiman's Old Tool Shed Now a Machine Shop.

Dean Bailey's Herd Again Ranks High.

Farmers Must Be Prepared to Store 1942 Crop on Farms.

To Support Butter Price at 36 Cents.

Government Seizes Unused Scrap Iron.

Tractor Tips.

More Eggs and Not Broilers Needed.

Stretch the Farm Rubber.

Ed Crawford, county agricultural agent; Carl Hawkes, farm forest supervisor; Miss Esther Miller, home demonstration agent; Miss Florence Whipple, FSA home supervisor; Mr. Thompson, FSA supervisor; Milton Hodges, National Farm Loan Association; Claude Henderson, AAA; George Simpson, production credit association; and Ralph Murray, representing an REA-financed cooperative serving the county, are the local representatives of the USDA agencies who cooperate in publishing the *Pratt County Farmer*. The vocational agriculture teachers are also included.

Lewis J. Thompson, rehabilitation supervisor, reports that "each agency

is able to contact all persons with whom it deals with a resulting saving in paper and cost of distributing information."

Most small-town and country newspapers usually give generous space to farm news, and the various USDA agencies in each county usually write letters and send circulars to the participants in their various programs. But it must be a great convenience to a farm family to have assembled in one monthly publication all such current information, whether it originates in Washington, at the State agricultural college, or at a meeting 6 miles down the road.

And the cooperative job of editing a newspaper for their county strengthens the teamwork of the agencies concerned.

MANAGEMENT COLUMN

Answering Questions

All USDA Clubs will be visited before June 30 by a speaker from the Office of Personnel who will answer questions many employees have been asking about their part in the war, promotions and examinations under the Mead-Rampeck Act, war transfers, changes in the Federal retirement policy, efficiency ratings, and so on.

● To the extent that space permits, USDA will also undertake to obtain the answers to such questions. If the subject is of general interest, answers will be printed.

Science Coordinators

Long-time benefits extending into years of peace should follow the wartime streamlining of the Department's organization. In the field, State and County USDA War Boards are setting a pace for fast, efficient teamwork by various Department agencies. In Washington, all the moves are in this same direction. Recently Dr. Rhett Y. Winters, Dr. S. B. Fracker, Henry W. Marston, and Gove Hambidge were appointed as Research Coordinators on the staff of Research Administrator E. C. Auchter who heads six famous scientific bureaus.

Transfers to War Agencies

The Department so far has objected to but few of the many transfers of its employees to war agencies having a higher "priority classification." (See USDA, March 6.) But now the work of the Department is being jeopardized in certain areas and lines of work and the Secretary has directed that in such cases the supervisors concerned should submit the pertinent facts to the Director of Personnel, who has the right to present such evidence to the Civil Service Commission.

● Recently when a Cincinnati station, because of the baseball season, canceled a daily 5-minute broadcast by Federal Food Reporter W. H. Mosier, of AMA's Fruit and Vegetable Branch,

AMA officials of course said nothing. But radio station officials indicated that they received protests from a large number of organizations and individuals. A week later the station returned the Food Reporter to the air at his old spot, even though this meant the cancellation of a commercial program.

Care of the Mill

The old mill, which is office parlance for typewriter, must last for the duration, although the boss will be as exacting as ever. Therefore, Department typists filled the Washington auditorium on May 21 for two showings of a color movie showing the proper care and repair of the typewriter. The Division of Training, Office of Personnel, is endeavoring to procure prints for showing by USDA Clubs and other groups in the field. (Secretary of the Navy Knox has ordered warships to cut the number of their typewriters, mimeograph, and multigraph machines at least 50 percent.)

● The Southwest Inter-mountain Post-War Planning regional committee, meeting in Phoenix last month, heard a member make a sensational proposal.

"I wonder," he said, "whether men operating programs can attain the attachment needed to plan on a big scale. Maybe the Department and the Government in general ought to set aside a group of men under 40, dreamers if need be, to do the original planning and keep the operating heads of programs, like myself, out until the plans have been formulated by these lively youngsters."

QUOTES

● We must guard against complacency. We must not underrate the enemy. He is powerful and cunning—and cruel and ruthless. . . . We must, on the other hand, guard against defeatism. That has been one of the chief weapons of Hitler's propaganda machine—used time and again with deadly results.

—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

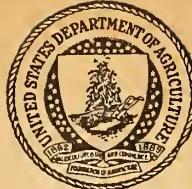
● By the last half of this year, the United States will be producing more war material than any other nation in the world's history. Now that we have to fight, we are going to fight with enthusiasm, doing the job more wholeheartedly than either the Germans or the Japs.

—HENRY A. WALLACE.

● The REA system is serving about 5,000 war-goods production plants in the Nation, besides the host of farms producing food for freedom. If REA hadn't electrified so many farms, the farm labor problem would be downright serious right now. Electricity can save a farm woman 4 hours a day. Many a shortage of critical war material can be traced to a shortage of power. Victory will be built upon a pyramid of power.

—HARRY SLATNEY.

U S D A



July 5, 1942, Volume I, Number 10

Ask a Soldier

Only in urgent cases where its work would be seriously jeopardized does the Department protest transfer of its employees to war agencies having a higher priority rating. But if any USDA worker feels that he is not rendering as direct a service to the war effort as he might in some other office, the Department requests that he stop and consider.

ACAA, For Example

SCS men, for example, used to long-range thinking about natural resources, may not fully grasp the *immediate* importance of their work in Food for Freedom and fats and oils. Yet research at SCS experiment stations and experience on the lands of thousands of farmers have proved it. Conservation practices will increase yields of the crops most needed now.

These increases are not limited to any one type of land, crop or region. Potato growers in New York and Maine have obtained yield increases running in some instances as high as 44 bushels per acre. Conservation management of range has doubled the calf crop and increased the weight of calves by 200 pounds at the same time. Similar increases have been recorded for the dairy products, sheep, hay, fruits, and vegetables urgently needed, while SCS research and field work are helping farmers raise the needed new acreages of soybeans—a crop which can cause terrible erosion—without danger.

Some of the most spectacular gains in crop yields through conservation practices have been recorded for corn and cotton. Corn yields have been increased as much as 300 percent, cotton yields have jumped 400 pounds an acre.

The Triple-A Is a Godsend

As for the AAA, with each State and county chairman heading his State or county USDA war board, and victory depending on their success in helping farmers grow more of what the United Nations need and less of what they don't, each Triple-A employee should think several times before deciding that his services would be more useful elsewhere.

And as AAA and SCS work into the new framework of the ACAA, the ex-

perience and background of seasoned employees is more than ever needed to help farmers convert their farms to war, to help them overcome growing shortages of machinery, labor, fertilizer, and other supplies, to come through a thousand and one odd jobs like the scrap rubber collection with flying colors.

Other Jobs, Too

ACAA is one of the largest units, but a case of equal importance can be stated for almost every USDA job. Selective Service and the Manpower Commission headed by Federal Security Administrator Paul McNutt decide ultimately where every American will be most useful. While Department officials would like employees to have as much freedom of choice as is consistent with carrying on its work, they would consider it nothing short of a tragedy if any USDA worker left because he

failed to understand the importance of the job he's already doing. Ask a soldier what he thinks about food.

• Said the old woman to the boy milking a cow, "Young man, why aren't you at the front?"

"That isn't where the milk comes from."

With the Colors

Through May 30, 1942, a grand total of 4,511 Department workers had entered the armed forces since October 1940.

Farm Girl Has Best Chance

The Census Bureau reports: "The girl who stays on the farm or in a small town has a better chance of marrying than the lass who goes to the city." Most cities have more women than men. Only 28 out of 199 cities with 50,000 or more population had more males than females in 1940.



For civilians war means standing in line—to buy bonds, to be rationed, or to fight fires, like these members of a volunteer crew receiving last-minute instructions from a Forest Service man in Wisconsin. The Service also has the help of volunteer flyers in spotting forest fires from the air. And Extension is lining up farm people all over the country to protect homes, buildings, and crops from possible enemy action.

MANAGEMENT COLUMN

Watching Your Figure

Some of the most useful statistics gathered by USDA might be useful also to the Axis. Secretary Wickard, in a letter to Dr. Stuart A. Rice, Assistant Director of the Bureau of the Budget in charge of Statistical Standards, has approved policy and procedure for our Department in withholding from publication such statistical data as might give aid to the enemy. Under the arrangement, which has been approved by Dr. Rice, USDA agencies can make recommendations through the Department's Statistics Committee on the withholding of statistical data and its bearing on the work of the Department, especially wartime agricultural production. Members of the Committee, which maintains liaison with Dr. Rice's Division of Statistical Standards, are Budd A. Holt, AMA; Joseph L. Orr, AAA; S. R. Newell, AMA; W. F. Callander, BAE; E. C. Johnson, FCA; L. H. Hauter, FSA; Dr. Day Monroe, BHE; O. C. Stine, BAE; R. T. Beall, REA; H. B. Steer, FS; C. F. Speh, BAC&E; A. E. Brandt, SCS; M. A. Girshick, BAE, secretary; and Eric Englund, BAE, chairman.

It is the responsibility of the Statistics Committee, in cooperation with the Director of Information, to carry out the general policy laid down.

IDEAS WANTED

The Department, like the farms it serves, faces a growing shortage of trained personnel with which to do its war job. The only answer is more and better ideas from all ranks on all its activities—office management, action and educational programs, research, regulatory work, and all the rest.

In regard to personnel matters affecting the welfare of employees, machinery for submitting and forwarding ideas from a clerk-stenographer in the suboffice at Junction Center up to Washington is already in effect.

Now, however, supervisors are beginning to talk about getting more ideas up from the ranks on carrying on the Department's work.

At a meeting of the Department's Organization and Procedure Conference last March, Henry H. Farquhar of the Forest Service, who has had years of experience in helping private industries to draw out operating ideas from their employees with benefit to all concerned, spoke his mind freely.

Workers Are Egoists

"The worker is first of all an egoist," he said. "Even as you and I. He doesn't like 'systems' imposed upon him. But the man on the job will do things to his own job that you and I never in the world could do. If he is encouraged, he will devise his own systems

and his own ways of doing things better. * * * The average worker and lower supervisor have fine ideas, but they usually have no safe way of getting them up to the man who can and will act upon them; they therefore remain locked up, awaiting the man who can find the master key to unloose them."

Mr. Farquhar outlined a definite scheme for breaking this mental log jam which seems to stifle so many good ideas in large organizations. Although too lengthy to be summarized here, the plan is simple and practical and interested supervisors and officials in all agencies of the Department may obtain further information from Stanley P. Williams, Administrative Council, Office of the Secretary.

Asking Isn't Enough

But Mr. Farquhar warned that whenever the plan is tried "all employees must be made a part of such a program; their cooperation must be definitely sought. Cooperation does not result simply from asking for their cooperation; a definite technique is necessary to bring it about. * * * I have found it fatal to morale to ask for suggestions and criticism, to provide the means by which these can be given, and then have management do nothing about them."

In the minds of USDA workers of all ranks, thousands of good ideas pop up daily; most probably die a-borning, but a few find their way into action.

Two Good Ideas

Example of a recent Good Idea: The usual box manufacturer is busy making munitions boxes, so a shortage looms in vegetable boxes. We can't afford waste, this year. Ellsworth Bell, Extension Service economist in Massachusetts, used his imagination, thought "boxes can be made in hobby workshops." A news story and radio broadcast by him brought in responses at the rate of 50 a day at first, from many amateur woodworkers, and a couple of small shops not engaged in war work. Bell has written up specifications which he will send to county war boards and extension staffs on request.

• And another: There's an acute shortage of farm labor on the East Coast, where FSA is building 18 mobile labor camps to help out. But there's also an acute shortage of canvas and nails which threatened to stop construction. Mike Mascia, FSA District Engineer at Upper Darby, Pa., kept going by devising a new type of demountable shelter made of wood sheathing, fastened together with wooden dowels. The new type of shelter not only outwits priorities but can be erected at the site where the farm labor is needed in four minutes as compared with a half-day for canvas; it is 5 percent cheaper than the canvas shelters and is more comfortable and durable.

Safety Campaigns Bring Results

During the calendar year 1938, deaths of Department of Agriculture employees averaged a little more than one each

week, according to the Division of Personnel Relations and Safety, Office of Personne. During the year 1941 the average had decreased to somewhat less than one each week; this year, the average to date has been one death every two weeks.

The Top Board

On June 9, 1942, President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill topped off the governmental structure by which the two nations are waging joint war with a Combined Production and Resources Board, and a Combined Food Board consisting of two men—Secretary Wickard and Mr. R. H. Brand, chief of the British Food Mission in Washington. Mr. Brand's offices are in the Willard Hotel, only 5 minutes by taxi from Mr. Wickard's. By order of President and Prime Minister, "the entire food resources of Great Britain and the United States will be deemed to be in a common pool, about which the fullest information will be interchanged."

Thus the USDA employee now works for the United States Department of Agriculture, which in turn reports to the Foods Requirements Committee of which Mr. Wickard is Chairman, and ultimately for the Combined Food Board representing both governments.

Old Names, New Jobs

M. Clifford Townsend, former director of the Office of Agricultural War Relations, is now head of the Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration. To assist in handling responsibilities imposed by the Foods Requirements Committee, Secretary Wickard appointed one of his assistants, Sam Bledsoe, to succeed Governor Townsend as Director of OAWR. Bledsoe will continue to be a member of the Secretary's immediate staff. Mr. Wickard appointed another assistant, H. W. Parisius, as Associate Director of OAWR. These two men will carry much of the extra load placed on the Department by the Committee. (See USDA, June 20.)

Especially to provide liaison between the various economic and statistical services of USDA and these other agencies of the Government charged by the Committee with planning for the United Nations food supply, the Secretary created a new Division of Foods Requirements in the OAWR. This will be headed by D. A. Fitzgerald, formerly of PAE.

Dillon S. Myer, formerly assistant administrator of ACA and assistant chief of SCS, has been appointed director of the War Relocation Authority. He succeeds Milton S. Eisenhower, now deputy director of the Office of War Information headed by Elmer Davis.

Dr. Orville E. May, director of the Northern Research Laboratory at Peoria, Ill., has joined the staff Research Administrator, E. C. Auchter as a research coordinator. Horace T. Herrick, assistant chief of BACE, succeeds Dr. May. Carl F. Speh succeeds Herrick.

FARM LABOR

• Selected Maryland convicts whose prison records are satisfactory and who have less than 3 years of their terms to serve were released for farm work last month by Governor O'Conor. Inmates were asked to volunteer and were placed in jobs on the joint recommendation of United States Employment Service and county agents. No wholesale releases were planned, said the Governor, and the same care shown in granting paroles would be exercised in the new plan.

• On the opposite coast, some farmers were reported to be "making work" for their migratory hands in order to have them available for harvest of the next crop. A newspaper headline said "Oakies Hoarded in California Now." Department officials believe, however, that despite wartime labor shortages most migrant farm families have still a long way to go before coming within sight of any degree of economic security.

• The Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor, started during the last war to aid women war workers, is still on the job under Director Mary Anderson. Last month the Women's Bureau issued a report on "Guides for War-Time Use of Women on Farms" which is being distributed to women's organizations and State and Federal agencies. It reemphasizes statements of the Employment Service and USDA that nothing will be gained if zealous women move on to farms without due regard for their own capabilities or the real needs of the region. "Under no conditions should the use of women be permitted to lower existing standards of wages and working conditions."

FOOD FOR FREEDOM

Plenty of Meat

The Secretary reported to the first meeting of the Foods Requirements Committee that with the good growing weather which has so far prevailed there ought to be plenty of food to meet the wartime needs of the United Nations and housewives need not fear a repetition of the meatless days of 1918. Even if pork supplies may be short at times, he said, he doubted that pork would be rationed and in any case, a housewife who found the butcher temporarily out of pork could choose from plentiful supplies of beef, lamb, poultry, eggs, and cheese. Mr. Wickard took the lid off cheese consumption by saying there's now plenty for all our requirements and those of our Allies, too—enough for "two slices on your piece of pie instead of one."

But Less Coffee

But there will be less coffee, perhaps 25 percent less from now to victory, as

a result of shipping shortages. The *Consumers' Guide* tells how to make the most of what coffee we can get. Preferably use a filter or drip principle coffee pot (glass, stone, or earthenware is best), keep it scrubbed, measure the coffee accurately (experts recommend a level tablespoon to a half-pint of water) and don't boil it; even so-called boiled coffee, properly made, is steeped in boiling water, not actually boiled in it. One expert claims that if everyone followed these rules, 75 percent of the coffee used last year would actually make twice as many cups of coffee.

• Hitherto, only interstate meat packers have been subject to Federal inspection. By an act of Congress signed by the President June 10, 1942, intrastate packers may now apply for inspection also. If they expect to sell substantial quantities of meat to Federal agencies and if they meet requirements for sanitation and equipment, they may receive BAI inspection and bid on Army, Navy, and lend-lease contracts. Appropriations are authorized in the bill to carry out the new provisions, which terminate 6 months after the end of the war.

FSA Convoys An Egg

An egg leaving a sunny nest on a one-mule farm in Georgia for a company mess in Cairo travels a long and dangerous way, via dehydration plant, Army services of supply, and convoy.

Even during the easy first stages of the journey, assisted by the Department of Agriculture with price supports and its full battery of research, educational, and marketing services, the egg can be torpedoed by circumstances. The farmer's wife can drop it from her apron—or the farmer can find that he has no way to reach the market, especially with rubber and gasoline shortages.

Last winter to knock out a regional price slump AMA went down South and began buying eggs at centrally located Government warehouses. This helped, but many a small farmer who had increased his flock in response to his country's call still found the market too far away.

In some of these States FSA county supervisors have now helped borrowers to form neighborhood groups so that local men can truck their eggs to the marketing centers. In Madison County, Ga., the "small farmer" egg route collects some 1,500 eggs a week. Similar routes now operate in nine Alabama counties. Conceived as an emergency marketing device, the neighborhood truck routes promise to become a permanent means of marketing all kinds of farm produce.

"Food Leaders" Planned

In Syracuse, N. Y., a new wartime food program may soon be given a try-out.

The plan is for block leaders, drawn from the ranks of civilian defense volunteers, to contact housewives, passing on information and suggestions from Government agencies about food supplies, rationing, and nutrition.

The plan was developed by a committee representing the Department of Agriculture (Agricultural Marketing Administration), the Office of Defense Health and Welfare, and OPA's Consumer Division. Under the plan, AMA will furnish food supply data, stressing Victory Food Specials (see USDA, June 6) and other abundant foods which help take the load off foods needed for our soldiers and Allies.

Should such a plan be placed in operation by the civilian defense authorities in your town, it would be a highly suitable civilian defense job for the average USDA employee, whose neighbors, rightly or wrongly, expect for him to be something of an authority on nutrition and food.

In any case, Department employees, of any bureau, rank, or station should learn the basic facts of food supplies and nutrition. They should be able to supply their neighbors on request with the essential information about what food people should eat to cooperate with the wartime food program.

The Milk Situation

Explained Roy F. Hendrickson, Agricultural Marketing Administrator last month: "At the beginning of Lend-Lease buying, the United Nations asked for 22 million cases of evaporated milk a year. In a little over a year we've actually delivered 14 million cases, and could have delivered more. But the United Nations have reduced their requests for evaporated milk in favor of dried milk powder. * * * Powdered milk takes up less shipping space. That is why the United Nations now want more of our dried milk and less evaporated milk. * * * So the Department asked the dairy industry to steer some of the milk that has been diverted to evaporated milk, back into spray skim milk powder, butter and dried whole milk. Adjustments are being made rapidly, and already evaporated milk output has been somewhat reduced. * * *"

Only where the milk evaporating plants are located in areas where there are also creameries, milk drying plants, and other ways to process the milk, is the dairy industry being asked to divert milk to these other processes. The AMA, he explained, is still buying evaporated milk, and will continue to do so through the flush period.

Wickard in Mexico

Secretary Wickard is attending the Second Inter-American Conference of Agriculture in Mexico City, July 6-16, at which all the American Republics are represented. The conference is expected to contribute materially to the achievement of a better-balanced agricultural economy in the hemisphere and a higher standard of living for all the nations of North, South, and Central America. It will make specific recommendations on problems of procurement of strategic raw materials and on many other phases of the scientific and economic problems which farmers of the hemisphere are now beginning to face together.

Two Hundred Seeds Fill Nation's Needs

While there is a temporary spice shortage, American farmers are proving that they can produce in our own soil many of the things heretofore imported. In the Northwest, farmers are now producing enough mustard seed for export. California is raising caraway, poppy, and celery seed. Gardeners everywhere are going in for herb gardens, as in Colonial days when every home raised its own sage, cumin, marjoram, and thyme.

In Louisiana there is an old industry in rich, hot sauces, such as Tabasco. Now with the aid of the Farm Security Administration farmers in nearby St. Landry Parish are growing a strange new crop—paprika. Yugoslavia, a main source of paprika, forbade its export except in dehydrated form. But in 1939, shortly before that nation was invaded, A. C. Denese, a Hungarian by birth but a naturalized American citizen, managed to import to America one small package of 200 dried, shriveled paprika pods. The Yugoslav customs man looked doubtful, but considered that they complied with the law.

Research Helps

This small package has now reshaped the lives of hundreds of low-income farm families in the United States. The dried seed ripened in the friendly soil of Beltsville, where J. H. Beattie, senior horticulturist, directed the experiments.

Out of these came a distinctly American paprika declared to be even better than the Yugoslav variety. Department investigations indicated that Georgia, Louisiana, and New Mexico offered likely sites. St. Landry Parish, La., was selected. The farmers here were very poor, had large families to help with the hard labor involved, and desperately needed a new crop to add to their uncertain income.

Denese established a mill at Opelousas to dry, clean, and grind the paprika into the red powder you sprinkle on your deviled eggs.

Farm Security Helps

Next, the Farm Security Administration, which had many borrowers already among the Acadian folks of this isolated parish, encouraged them to venture into the new crop and where necessary supplied loans for the purpose, with its usual supervision.

The first crop, in 1940, was spoiled by too much rain. But in 1941 about 40,000 pounds of ground paprika were obtained from plots of 1 to 3 acres cultivated by several hundred farmers. This year, after another winter of instruction by FSA supervisors and Mr. Denese, who is manager of the mill, there may be as much as 20,000,000

pounds from a total of 2,500 acres. By 1944, if the schedule is followed, the industry will be meeting America's needs. The plant is not only an agreeable seasoning but it is reported rich in vitamin C.

Several Birds

In this development, USDA helped to bring down several birds with one stone. The practical and scientific arms of the Department of Agriculture joined with private enterprise to meet one of our minor war needs and to aid low-income farmers to achieve greater self-sufficiency.

PRINTED WORD

The Department, be it noted again, has no bulletin on the love life of a frog, but the hundreds it does have are doing yeoman work in the victory effort.

• Soil Surveys, for example, are constantly requested by the War and Navy. For some areas they are the only accurate base maps. They also help in planning camouflage. One soil survey saved more than \$300,000 in building a naval airport. Bulletin 1128, *Decays and Discolorations in Airplane Woods*, has guided Army and Navy inspectors for many years. Hurry calls come increasingly for publications on the control of mosquitoes around camps. The Corps of Engineers makes constant use of Forest Service engineering handbooks; the Marines and the Signal Corps use publications dealing with radio in forest fire control. A Forest Service publication on parachute equipment and technique is in constant demand.

• Dehydrated food is important now. It saves shipping space. Commercial dehydration of fruits and vegetables owes much to research in the Department during the past 25 years; a new edition of 3,000 copies of Circular 619, on the subject, last September, was exhausted by February. The circular is a contribution of the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering.

Many people are clamoring for all the publications we have on eggs and egg products, weather-resistant fireproofing treatments for cotton fabrics, wheat in storage, insecticides, simple plumbing repairs, electric motors on the farm, tanning materials and dyes, animal disease control, breeding and feeding livestock, control of farm insect pests, and hundreds of other matters associated with the war.

• Food for Freedom raises many new problems. SCS publications tell how to grow crops like soybeans without destroying soil and water resources. Farmers Bulletin 1754, *Care and Repair of Mowers and Binders*, was sent to 8,200 persons between September and February. A radio talk brought 700 requests for a flyer on *Feeding to Produce More Milk for Victory*.

Today, as for years past, the bulletins in greatest demand by members of Congress, by individual request from the public, and by sales at the Superintendent of Documents, are those about efficient home management and home food supplies. The leading Department publication is still F. B. 1762, *Home Canning of Fruits, Vegetables and Meats*. Its total circulation since 1926 is 2,819,698. Next is F. B. 1674, *Food for Children*, 2,559 9/2 copies since 1916. Department bulletins on the *City Home Garden and the Farm Garden*, on *Diseases and Insects of Garden Vegetables*, the *Feeding of Chickens*, and similar subjects are more useful and popular than ever in war.

OUR TOWN

It was the Berlin radio which announced the extermination of Lidice. As part of its revenge for the slaying of Gestapo hangman Heydrich, the Nazis reported that they shot all the men in the village, took the women to camps and the children to "appropriate educational institutions," and wiped out every trace of habitation.

From all accounts Lidice was of less than 1,000 population, a village of miners and wood-cutters, with a few farmers near Prague, in former Czechoslovakia. If you've ever seen Whitehaven, Warrior Run, or Dalton, in the Pennsylvania hills with a large proportion of Czech mining folks, you've seen a town like Lidice.

Or essentially it was like Newland, N. C., East Brownfield, Maine, or any small American town with a church, a cemetery, a school, a shoemaker, a blacksmith, and gardens behind the houses. It isn't there any more, that's all.



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WORLD WHEAT AGREEMENT

Early last month Secretary Wickard announced the 1943 Triple-A wheat allotment of 55 million acres, the minimum the law allows. In view of a bumper 1942 crop and overflowing bins he said he would have liked to set it lower still.

A month later five great nations, including the United States, announced a World Wheat Agreement embodying the principles of adjustment, Ever-Normal Granary reserves, marketing quotas, and price stabilization.

The agreement includes Argentina, Australia, Canada, Great Britain, and the United States. Because it was not possible for Russia, whose wheat belt is the scene of bitter fighting, and some other wheat producing nations to take part, the conference drew up a draft convention to be presented for their signature. When the world settles down a second and all-embracing wheat conference will be called. Meanwhile, the agreement is binding on the five nations which signed it. Four of them are among the world's greatest export producers; the fifth, Great Britain, does not raise nearly enough wheat for her own needs but is a leading importer. This is a big enough slice of the human race to make quite a fair test.

Five Nations, Five Points

According to the agreement, each country undertakes to do five things:

1. Adjust its own production in accordance with consumer demand. This might be done on the AAA plan by acreage adjustment, or by diversion of wheat to other uses.

2. Adopt the principle of the Ever-Normal Granary, so that the wheat surplus of the whole world can be stored to relieve hunger anywhere, any time.

3. Make an orderly adjustment of exports through a system of quota percentages. Each nation may share in the world wheat market up to a stated percentage of its annual production. Our current share is 16 percent, which on the basis of current harvests would mean about 80,000,000 bushels for export, more than we have exported in any year since 1939.

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WHAT'S COOKIN'?



Before dehydrated meat, now being developed by USDA scientists, can be recommended for commercial use it must be tested for flavor, food value, and growth-promoting qualities. Secretary Wickard sampled it, said the flavor was O. K. These white rats, with the supervision of Scientific Aide George G. Snider, will show how dehydrating affects the growth-promoting value of the meat protein.

4. Agree to stabilization of world wheat prices at levels satisfactory to producer and consumer. This does not mean a uniform price for wheat within each country, but a stabilized price for all wheat which enters international trade.

5. Contribute from present wheat surpluses to a pool of more than 100,000,000 bushels for post-war relief distribution throughout the world.

Probable Effects

One effect of this agreement should be to knock out international speculation in wheat. A World Wheat Council will function continually to stabilize world prices. Henceforth international wheat traders will handle the world's daily bread just as your corner grocer handles it—as a commodity with an established price on a steady market.

Another effect will be to prevent post-war dumping of wheat on the world market such as followed World War I, with disastrous effects to soils and men.

HOME FIRES

Not all the ways in which war seems to turn back the clock mean hardship. A blazing hearth or wood-burning stove next winter will be patriotic as well as pleasant. J. A. Fitzwater of the Forest Service last month advised farmers to cut fuel wood now in order to let it season properly for use or for sale next winter. A cord of oak, hickory, black locust, or hard maple has about the same heating value as a ton of coal. The lighter species run about a cord and a half of wood to a ton of coal in heating value. Fitzwater cautioned, however, against cutting trees for fuel that would be more valuable for other use. Careful thinning, or even the dead, defective, or injured trees from the woodlot will yield all the cord wood the average family has strength or time to cut these days.

Wood-burning heaters and cookstoves are still being manufactured, by WPB consent, to ease the strain on transportation of other fuels.

Once more: if your oil-burner was converted from a coal furnace, convert it back and order coal now for use next winter.

And another will be to increase world trade in wheat on the sound basis of increased demand.

The possibilities for increasing consumption are practically endless. If every Chinese had only half a bushel of wheat per year, for example, it would take all our surplus to satisfy the demand.

To many observers it seemed that this World Wheat Agreement, the result of long and arduous labor, was the first definite step towards that post-war world of abundance which statesmen of the United Nations have said is within reach of free men and women. If we can agree on bread, we can agree on other things.

History may give the credit to the international experts (including Paul Appley, Leslie Wheeler, Spike Evans, and Lloyd Steer) who have toiled since July 1941, through Washington's heat and war's alarms. More credit, however, should go to farmers in this Nation, including 100,000 farmer-commiteemen elected by their neighbors, who for the ninth consecutive year are proving that it can be done.

Part of Our Job Now Is Looking for Junk

The National Salvage Campaign will last from now to victory. The Department is enrolled. It is now part of our job as USDA employees to know and tell others the basic facts about salvaging junk, today, tomorrow, and every day.

These things are needed everywhere, every minute: Scrap iron and steel; scrap rubber; nonferrous metals (copper, brass, aluminum, zinc, lead); collapsible tin tubes; waste cooking fats; old manila rope; burlap.

These things are needed in certain regions as announced by the local salvage committees: Rags, tin cans, waste paper, glass bottles. Not needed for the war are razor blades and canceled stamps.

War Boards in the Country

USDA War Boards will continue in charge of the scrap collection campaigns in rural districts. USDA employees everywhere should cooperate with their local War Boards in helping to get the scrap in from the farms. Ideas are needed. If you have one, tell your supervisor.

All of Us in Town

In cities and towns, local salvage committees are in charge of the continuing national salvage campaign. Like other citizens, USDA workers should sell their junk to the dealers, or give it to local charities; in addition, they should make a point of learning the facts in order to inform others.

How to Save Cooking Fats.

The salvage of cooking fats, a probability of which Department employees were notified several months ago, is new for most American families.

Here are the official instructions:

1. Save all your waste cooking fats after they are no longer useful for seasoning or cooking—pan and broiler drippings from meat and deep fats, whether lard or vegetable shortening, from all fried foods.

2. Pour them into a spotlessly clean, wide-mouthed can.

3. Keep them in the ice box or a cool dark place until you have at least a pound.

4. Take them to your meat dealer, preferably before they turn rancid. He will weigh your can, pay the established price and start it on its way to become glycerine for bombing Tokyo and Berlin. Frozen food-locker plants will also accept salvaged fats.

Junk Catechism

Know the following additional facts, and don't be bashful about using them:

Junk dealers must handle scrap metals and scrap rubber because it is useless unless properly sorted, graded, prepared, and packed in lots large enough to ship efficiently. Only junk dealers have experience and equipment to do this. The farm machinery dealers' trucks, WPA trucks, and other volunteer trucks, are helping the USDA War Boards to move farm scrap to the dealers' yards.

Junk dealers cannot profiteer because ceilings are placed on prices at which they can sell to mills and factories. Exact prices which dealers pay the public for scrap cannot be set by government because so much depends on condition of the junk, distance, etc. But USDA War Boards know and inform the farming public about what a fair price should be. There has been very little trouble about this once the facts are known.

Junk piled in a junkyard or auto graveyard does not necessarily mean profiteering or hoarding. An empty junkyard or auto graveyard produces no scrap. It is necessary to accumulate enough of each grade to make economical shipments. Any dealer who hoards is subject to requisitioning by the Government and this has been done in several cases.

The Government does not want direct gifts of junk from the public. Give it to local charities, service organizations or Defense Councils—or sell it to the dealer and buy War Stamps or Bonds.

The Bureau of Industrial Conservation of the War Production Board helps where there are legal or financial obstacles to scrapping old trolley and railroad tracks, bridges, etc. The Bureau welcomes reports from the public of abandoned materials. Factories, shipyards, mines, etc., are scrapping unused equipment all the time—as is the

Department of Agriculture. Look around your own office or plant, and tell your associates to do likewise.

Build up a Pile at Home

Anybody can collect scrap. Children are good at it. The more the merrier. However, in order to avoid confusion and duplication all volunteer collection drives should be directed by the salvage committee of the local defense council or, in the country, the USDA War Board.

Form the habit of looking out all the time for scrap rubber, metal, etc., just as you would notice gold or silver on the sidewalk. The junk might do more than the coin to win the war.

If ownership of the junk is not clear or if it is too big for you to move, report it to your local Salvage Committee, or USDA War Board, if you live in the country.

FOOD FOR FREEDOM

Fruit Jars.

A group of farmers' wives in Okeechobee County, Fla., will lay by 13,000 more quarts of home-canned food this year than they had last, because they pooled their funds to buy used glass jars at greatly reduced prices.

The cost of new jars, 10 cents apiece, held up their canning last year. This year six women organized a revolving fund and each one put in 50 cents. Their home management supervisor bought 1,500 jars from a junk dealer for 1½ cents each.

Other women became interested enough to buy a truckload of 5,000 used jars. They cleaned them and fitted them with lids for a total expense of 50 cents a dozen.

In south Florida the growing season is long enough that these 6,500 jars can be filled with fruit and vegetables twice a year. This means 13,000 extra quarts.

Major Victory

Secretary Wickard reported on June 26, "The June pig report shows a major victory on the food front. The Nation's farmers are raising 62 million head of spring pigs, and this year's total farrowings may be about 105,000,000 head. This would be an increase of 23 percent over last year—and eighteen and one half million head more than any previous year on record. It will mean that in 1943 we will produce about 2 billion pounds more pork and lard than we are producing this year. Pork and lard are two of the important foods in our United Nations war larder. These figures are bad news for the Axis."

The Secretary repeated his warning that hogs should be marketed more evenly than usual through the fall and winter, to prevent a jam when the heavy run of hogs moves to the packing houses.



The matter contained herein is published semimonthly by direction of the Secretary of Agriculture as administrative information required for proper transaction of the public business, with the approval of the Director of the Budget. EDITOR, A. T. ROBERTSON.

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New Hybrid Corn.

John Maron, a 36-year old Latin-American farmer who first landed on the north bank of the Rio Grande as a penniless farm hand looking for a job, has developed a new hybrid corn this season under the guidance of USDA workers who say it has all the desirable characteristics Gulf coast farmers have been seeking for years, and will yield 100 bushels or more to the acre.

The new hybrid resulted from crossing yellow Tuxpan corn with a double-cross Kentucky hybrid known as K&S-2K4. Maron carried out his experiment on two 10-acre plots on the FSA Rio Farms project in Hidalgo County, Tex., with assistance from J. H. Padgett, acting manager at Rio Farms, and Superintendent W. H. Friend, and John Wood of the Texas Experiment Station at Weslaco.

Mr. Maron, a successful farmer, is interested in Rio Farms and serves as president of its board of directors because it provides Latin-Americans of the region a chance to climb the same ladder from farm labor to farm ownership which he began to climb 19 years ago.

Tomatoes.

Tomatoes were introduced to 41 farms in Newton County, Nebr., this season by FSA supervisors, who spent 2 weeks setting out tomato plants in the borrowers' gardens and generally improving the garden program. Wearing slacks and overalls, T. Blaine Laughlin, home management supervisor, and William L. Doyle, farm supervisor, delivered 2,000 tomato plants and helped place them in individual gardens. The families invited in the neighbors to watch, and several excellent group discussions developed on food production—all the way from planting to storing.

News.

Forty-five Mississippi farm families went without the news because they could not afford to take the local paper. But after war began, they decided that to be patriotic they must be informed. Their FSA home supervisor went to the editor of the Holly Springs (Miss.) South Reporter, who made the group a cooperative subscription rate, and within 10 days had added the names of 45 FSA borrowers to his mailing list.

Store Wheat in Tourist Cabins.

Do you know an owner of now-empty tourist cabins in wheat-growing country? A South Dakota tourist-cabin proprietor has rented nine cabins for storing 15,000 bushels of wheat at 6 cents per bushel for a year.

Foreign Broadcasts

USDA workers throughout the country are finding thousands of farmers of foreign ancestry willing and eager to send across the world in their own words, by short-wave, the story of Food for Freedom. Andrew Kinden, for example, representing more than 100,000 Norwegians in this country, has made a record for short-wave broadcast to Norway. Mr. Kinden has two boys in

the armed service and a contract to build enough wooden bins for the Commodity Credit Corporation to hold 30 million bushels of wheat. Another Norwegian who has made a recording is T. A. Eide, Secretary of the Franklin Co-op Creamery in Minneapolis, whose farmer is one of the best-known school teachers in Norway. Others who are making similar records include small farmers, many of Axis ancestry, who tell in their own words what American freedom has meant to them and what they are doing to preserve it and to liberate the conquered lands.

Send news of other such farmers, if you know them, to Ed Hullinger, Office of Information, Washington, D. C.

MANAGEMENT COLUMN

At Woodland Park

Last spring at Woodland Park, Colo., high in the Rocky Mountains, executives, personnel, and training officers from various Department agencies put on their thinking caps about the manpower shortage in USDA. Their recommendations were boiled down to six points:

1. Eliminate or curtail nonessential procedures with the cooperation of all employees; decentralize authority, especially in personnel matters; eliminate unfit or unwilling workers; plan for orderly release of men to the armed forces.
2. Administrators should accept the responsibility for training, and should instruct their supervisors and inspectors how to train those under them.
3. Direct training of new recruits toward wartime essentials only, with

special attention to bringing professional or scientific recruits up to job requirements within a short space of time.

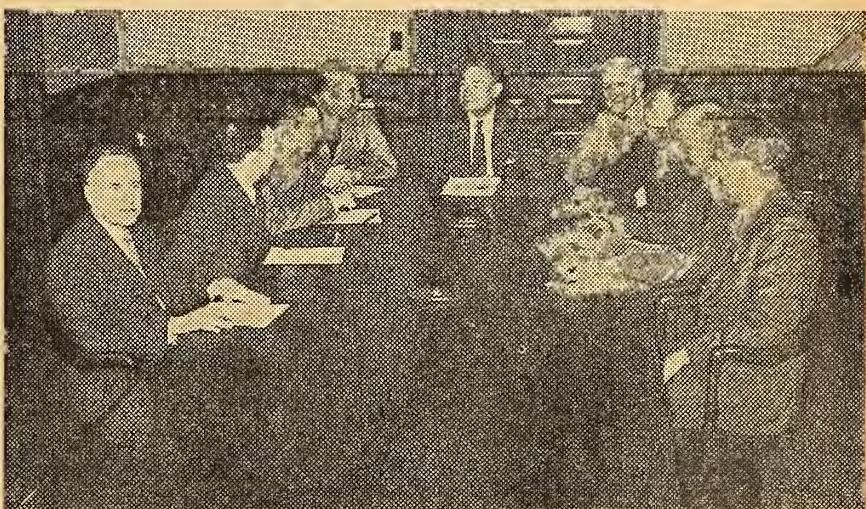
4. Plan intensive training for the upgrading of employees.
5. Make advance preparations for unexpected emergency duties.
6. Instruct new and old employees how to meet the demand for information about the work of the whole Department.

8 Men Do Work of 80.

Under the mild, professorial language employed by the personnel folks lies enough dynamite to shake many Department workers out of their peacetime grooves. Some highlights: Professional, scientific, and clerical workers ought to be trained in supervision. All supervisors should be trained to study and analyze work methods. An example was cited from the guayule rubber project at Salinas, Calif. After the Forest Service took over the project from a private rubber company, an FS supervisor analyzed the procedure for laying duckboards in the nursery, reorganized it with no extra equipment so that 8 men did the work 80 had done before, and in the same time.

Set up a definite understudy or apprenticeship system for all types of positions. All USDA workers should be inventoried by particular subjects or skills so that the War Boards can quickly draw upon the whole Department for special assignments. Each State and county also has men and women outside the Department with special skills or knowledge which would be invaluable in emergencies.

Farmers and city people commonly think of the USDA worker as a "Government man" rather than as an employee of just one bureau of one department. They expect him to know the answers to all basic questions about agriculture's part in the war.



We're working for them, now: Members of the Foods Requirements Committee (See USDA, June 20) at their first meeting in the USDA Administration Building last month. Reading left to right members and agencies they represent are Dr. John Orchard, Lend-Leases; Roland S. Vaile, Division of Civilian Supply, WPB; L. S. Stinebower, State; Rear Adm. W. B. Young; Secretary Wickard, chairman; Brig. Gen. Carl A. Hardigg; W. B. Parker, BEW; Douglas C. Townsend, Division of Industry Operations, WPB; and T. L. Daniels, Materials Division, WPB.

FARM LABOR

Wheat harvest is underway. In Ohio, 13,700 school-age youth have registered for farm work; in Michigan, 12,500; in Wisconsin, 5,600; Indiana, 2,100; and Minnesota, 1,500. Elsewhere school kids, business men, even factory workers are signing up for work Saturdays and Sundays. National estimates show more hands working on farms than ever—the only trouble is many of them are green. But they've got a fighting spirit which will go far to make up for it.

Secretary Wickard announced that the railroads have arranged to grant lower fares for migratory farm workers whose tires are wearing out. Farm workers on the east coast can get supplementary gas rations to get from one job to the next on application to the local rationing board.

130,000,000 FARMERS

Before this war is over we may learn to think in terms of 130,000,000 men, women, and children on farms throughout the 21 republics of the hemisphere. For there are 30,000,000 in this Nation and of Latin America's population at least 100,000,000 are rural.

This month the Secretary returned from his visit to the Second Annual Inter-American Conference on Agriculture pleased with the results obtained. The average Latin-American is a farmer who knows what it is to work with his hands. Likewise, Mr. Wickard.

In his first speech before the Conference he could point to some sound cooperative accomplishments. For hemispheric defense Latin-American republics have increased their production of rubber, wool, hides, flax and henequen fiber, linseed, babassu, castor oils, tanning materials, cacao, quinine, and lumber. Scientists, economists, managers, and skilled help of all kinds from USDA have helped to make this possible.

Agricultural progress among the American countries will be increasingly cooperative. "We have recently made agreements for cooperative establishment and management of agricultural experiment stations in Peru, Nicaragua, and El Salvador," Mr. Wickard pointed out in Mexico. "The Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences, soon to be established, will be a center for scientific agricultural research for all the Americas."

There will be a greater exchange of agricultural students. Young Latin Americans are already in the United States studying with REA, SCS, and BAE. Others have accepted scholarships in agricultural chemistry and engi-

neering. "This training can and should be expanded," he said.

And finally, the Secretary pointed the attention of the conference to the necessity of planning beyond the hemisphere. "In planning for a post-war agricultural economy, we cannot overlook the nations of Europe."

Part of Your Pay in Dreams

Starting this month, 5 percent is being deducted from nearly all USDA pay checks for retirement purposes.

Early reports showed the Department going over the top in the Voluntary Pay-roll Allotment Plan for buying bonds. Considering that we've allotted 10 percent or more of our gross pay (including the missing 5 percent) in War Bonds, some of us now draw 15 percent less folding money each pay day than we did before Pearl Harbor. With the possibility of further pay-roll deductions next year to meet 1943 income taxes, many in the higher income brackets would, in this case, actually draw in cash next year only about three-fourths of the salaries they earn.

The missing balance, however, can provide a certain legitimate amount of day dreams.

The taxes will help to pay for Victory, cheap at any price. With the War Bonds we can enjoy good things sacrificed for the duration.

And with the 5 percent, sorely as we may miss it now, we can have a secure old age.

The amendment of January 24, 1942, to the Retirement Act granted retirement benefits at that time to all permanent, full-time employees of the Department, and, effective July 1, raised the retirement deduction to 5 percent, instead of the 3½ percent which has been standard since 1926. The Government under the new plan still contributes more than you do to your retirement fund.

When You Retire.

According to the law, *you must retire after your seventieth birthday* (with a minimum of 15 years' service in order to draw an annuity) unless you are kept on because of special qualifications.

If you choose, however, you can retire at 62, with 15 years' service, and draw an annuity, or annual income for life; or at 60, with 30 years' service; or you can retire at 55, with 30 years' service, and receive an immediate annuity but it will be somewhat lower than if you waited until 60.

The total amount to your credit in the fund, plus interest, is paid to your designated beneficiary if you die before the payments begin.

Three Annuity Plans.

The Civil Service Commission is in charge of figuring the annuities for each employee. The Commission uses one of three plans, depending upon which will give you the most. They are welcome to the job. The computation is complicated as it depends upon salary, num-

ber of years of service, age, sex, and money to the credit of the employee in the retirement fund. Sex comes into this discussion chiefly because women generally live longer than men.

Plan I buys you an annuity based upon the principle of the mortality tables used in the insurance business. In other words, age, as well as salary and years of duty, determine the annuity. Plan II provides a guaranteed minimum income upon reaching retirement age. This generally amounts to \$40 for each of 30 years of service, or in other words, \$1,200 a year. This plan will be used chiefly for computing annuities in the lower salary brackets. Under Plan III, generally used for employees in the higher salary brackets, you can work out your future income now with a pencil and paper. Take your average salary for any 5 consecutive years of service (the best-paid ones, naturally), multiply by your total number of years' service not exceeding 35, and then divide by 70.

If you worked for the Government without retirement benefits before January 24, 1942, you can if you wish deposit in the fund the amount which would have been deducted had you been under civil service, plus interest at 4 percent and thus receive full credit towards retirement for such service. Upon application to the Civil Service Commission, you may receive permission to make these deposits in installments.

If You Leave Before Retirement.

If you are separated after 5 or more years' service, but before becoming eligible for retirement, all deductions made from your salary for service since last January 24 remain to your credit in the fund and draw interest at 3 percent. (You can draw out the amount deducted for service before January 24.) If your separation was voluntary, upon reaching 62 you are then entitled to an annuity, which will not be as large as if you had stayed in the service, because the Government won't continue its contribution while you work outside, but it will still be quite large. Three percent rolls up.

If your separation was involuntary, but not because of misconduct or delinquency, you are even better off. In this case you can choose to receive at age 55 an annuity which is equal in value to the present work of a deferred annuity at age 62.

If you leave after less than 5 years' service, as many war employees may, you are entitled to a refund of the amount to your credit in the retirement fund plus interest at 4 percent. If the separation is involuntary, and not for cause due to misconduct, you are also entitled to a refund of the tontine (a sort of carrying or expense charge) which amounts to \$1 per month on such accounts.

If, after 5 years or more of service, you are so disabled that you can no longer perform your duties, you are entitled to an annuity of a size which depends upon age, sex, salary, etc. The disability annuity begins the first day of the month following separation.

U S D A



August 5, 1942, Volume I, Number 12

Peoria Laboratory Studies Synthetic Rubber Process

For several reasons, little has been said about the Department's research in synthetic rubber. In the first place, several Government agencies are involved in the national rubber supply picture. The Agricultural Research Administration plays a limited part, and both its work and its public announcements must be dovetailed with those of the others. Also, national policy requires more than normal caution in releasing information about important processes while they are still in the developmental stages. These restrictions limit what can be released even to the most strictly scientific publications these days.

However, it is possible to give a general report on the research in progress at the Peoria, Ill., Regional Research Laboratory, of the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering, which in line with its regular work on industrial utilization of farm products was instructed to do research on the production of synthetic rubber from wheat, corn, and other crops.

Buna From Butadiene

Buna, a form of synthetic rubber, can be produced from butadiene, which may be derived from various materials, including ethyl alcohol, by processes already well known to industry. The Peoria Laboratory has applied methods on a pilot plant scale for making ethyl alcohol from grains and other crops.

For some time the laboratory has also been working on another process, also using grains or other carbohydrate crops as raw materials. By this process, which involves fermentation but not the making of alcohol, a substance called 2,3 butylene glycol is produced from the grain. Butylene glycol, which the laboratory has succeeded in producing on a pilot-plant or semicommercial scale, is useful in several fields, including the manufacture of antifreeze, and from it butadiene has also been made, although this step has not been carried beyond the laboratory stage. The commercial possibilities are thus a matter of speculation until the problems of larger-scale production are licked.



George E. Ward, of the USDA laboratory at Peoria, inspects two types of pure butylene glycol made from corn by the fermentation process—one step along one of the winding roads to rubber.

Substitutes and Extenders

The laboratory has also worked out methods for producing "elastomers," or rubber substitutes and extenders, from corn, soybean, and other vegetable oils. This, of course, is entirely different from the processes that start from carbohydrates as a base. The "elastomers" have some of the properties of rubber and their usefulness would be as substitutes or partial substitutes for some rubber products. The laboratory is now testing the production of "elastomers" on a pilot-plant scale.

In both the butylene glycol and the "elastomer" work, the Department scientists have cooperated fully with industry, especially with a view to getting large-scale tests of the processes at the earliest possible moment.

Rubber Researchers

The butylene glycol work was started by Dr. R. D. Coghill, Chief of the Fermentation Division in the Peoria Laboratory, but soon gained such importance that Dr. E. C. Lathrop, Chief of the Agricultural Residues Division, Dr. C. T. Schicktanz, Chief of the

Agricultural Motor Fuels Division, Dr. C. T. Langford, Chief of the Engineering and Development Division, Dr. R. T. Milner, Chief of the Analytical and Physical Chemical Division, and many others became associated with the new development in one way or another. The rubber substitute or elastomer work was started by Dr. John Cowan in the Oil and Protein Division under the supervision of Dr. Ralph Manley, Chief of that Division.

Guayule and Other Sources

Large-scale production of guayule at Salinas, Calif., is under direction of the Forest Service. (See USDA, March 20.) BPI is doing the research. In the first quarter of 1942, 73 "indicator plots" were planted in California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas and 3 in Mexico, and studies have been made of the best field practices, of diseases, and of climate and soil. Eight BPI soil scientists, surveying tracts proposed for use, are just about now able to keep ahead of the leasing program of the Forest Service.

BPI has also made over 50 test plantings of Russian Dandelion (kok-saghyz) in cooperation with State, Alaskan and Canadian experiment stations. Some 150 acres of improved strains of goldenrod have been planted. Five acres of cryptostegia (or "Madagascar rubber vine") have been planted at Coconut Grove, Fla., and Yuma, Ariz., as well as Central American countries.

Experimental plantings of the Central American rubber tree have been made to test the possibility of growing it as an annual.

And in Latin-America more than 2 million seeds from wild rubber trees of the lower Amazon have been collected and sent to stations in Central America for blight-inoculation tests and selections of resistant types during the 1941-42 season. USDA in 1923 revealed the existence of strains resistant to a native leaf disease.

USDA workers have a right to a progress report on the Department's rubber research. But we have also the duty of not confusing hopes or future possibilities with the reality of terrible danger. Victory may depnd on our cooperation in stretching each ounce of existing rubber as far as it will go. This is the most important fact for us to know and tell others.

Home Economists Save Ship Space

The Bureau of Home Economics is also in the Battle of the Atlantic. Dehydrated foods, one of the most notable ship-saving jobs of 1942, draws heavily on BHE research, as well as on Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering, Animal Industry, and other branches of the Agricultural Research Administration.

When war broke out in Europe the dehydrated soups on the market were mainly specialities such as clam broth, with good flavor but little nourishment. BHE quickly put together a concoction of soya flour, dry skim milk, and dried or powdered pea, lima bean, or navy bean, which made rich nourishing soup. The Red Cross, long before we entered the war, asked the Bureau to test some of the foods it planned to send abroad for war relief, and for lend-lease the home economists made intensive tests to determine which food products offered smallest bulk, best nourishment, cheapest price for food value, and most palatable flavor. "If the people won't eat it, there's no use providing it," they reasoned.

"How'll You Have Your Eggs?"

The success of dried eggs for England involved some trans-Atlantic testing bouts. A panel of judges in England sent to this country samples of dried eggs as they have graded them, good, medium, and unsatisfactory, and we sent our gradings of dried eggs over to them. BHE had 70 samples of dried eggs under consideration, including those from England and Canada. England also sent over Dr. C. S. Hanes, of the low temperature research laboratory in Cambridge, who returned to set up the same grading techniques used in America.

A jury of men from the Purchase Branch of AMA were trained by Miss Dorothy Shank, Home Economics Specialist, in the BHE laboratories at Beltsville to test dried eggs by Anglo-American standards before the eggs leave this country. In a packaging plant, which formerly packed Cracker-Jack, each man will run a rod into the barrel of dried eggs as they come from the processors and will pull up a sample, weigh it out, cook it, taste it, and rate it.

Men taking this training were first tested. They took sips of 40 liquids—weak and strong solutions of sweet, salt, sour, or bitter—to show how keen was their sense of taste.

It's no joke. The British housewife pays 1s. 9d. (about 40 cents) for a red, white, and blue box marked Pure Dried Whole Eggs, U. S. A., equal to 12 eggs. They cross the Atlantic at a cost in lives and treasure. They'd better be good.

Other Foods

The same techniques will be applied in taste-testing dehydrated meat, now being developed by USDA laboratories for the armed services and lend-lease,

and for other products, too. All of us together will eventually beat the U-boats; the Navy which sinks 'em, the Air Corps which bombs their home bases in Germany, the shipyards building more ships, aircraft factories for bombers and cargo planes, and the laboratory workers who contrive "Infinite riches in a little room."

Department People

Dr. Henry G. Knight, Chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering, died July 13 and was buried in the family plot at Wichita, Kans.

• J. Joe Reed is the new assistant to ACA Administrator M. Clifford Townsend. He was formerly chief of the Production Division of AWR.

• H. Dean Cochran succeeds Perry A. Thompson as Chief of Forest Service's Division of Personnel Management. Mr. Thompson is now Chief of the Division of Fire Control. Mr. Cochran was in charge of personnel management for the Rocky Mountain region.

• Leonard I. Barrett is Director of the Central States Forest Experiment Station with headquarters at Columbus, O. The station serves Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Iowa, Missouri, and Arkansas. He succeeds Dr. J. Alfred Hall, now FS consultant in Washington on the emergency rubber project.

Farm wage rates on July 1 were the highest in 22 years. At 202, the index was 42 points above July 1, 1941. The average rate per day without board for the entire country on July 1 was \$2.45; the actual rate per day varied, however, from a low of \$1.15 a day in South Carolina to \$4.85 in Washington State.

• For a copy of the booklet, "Sharing Farm Machinery," write Farm Security Administration, Washington, D. C.



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Crop Insurance Covers War Risk

Property-owners in United States cities and towns are busy taking out war-risk insurance made available by the Government as protection against raids or any kind of enemy action.

Some 675,000 wheat and cotton growers who hold Federal Crop Insurance Corporation contracts on this year's crops are already covered against unavoidable losses caused by the war as well as those caused by drought, insects, plant diseases, wind, fire, flood, hail, or winter kill. FCIC insurance is all-risk insurance. FCIC is calling this to the attention of farmers, and is pointing out some recent changes in the program.

Program Changes

Future wheat crop insurance contracts will be for 3 years instead of 1. (However, a wheat farmer who contracts for insurance this year has the option of canceling the third year of his contract providing he notifies his county AAA committee before the closing date for new contracts in 1944.) Another feature is a reduced-cost plan for wheat growers who have built up large premium balances in excess of losses in recent years. County AAA committees have further information.

FCIC expects that over a million cotton and wheat farmers will have their crops protected with all-risk crop insurance in 1943.

Closing Dates

August 31 is final date for wheat crop insurance applications in Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Wisconsin, Wyoming; September 15 for Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia; September 30 for California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Wisconsin.

War Movies

During August, AAA will release a one-reel sound movie, on the subject of the range in wartime, showing the part conservation plays in producing beef, sheep, and wool for the war. Sometime between August and the end of the year AAA will release a movie on the Negro farmer's part in the war, and another on what the southern farmer is doing. The USDA Division of Motion Picture Films will release a movie showing the war uses of wood, one on gardens, and others dealing with nutrition, with sustaining forest yields, and farm fires.

• Remarkable Russian sound films showing achievements of Soviet farmers have been screened in Washington and if arrangements can be made, may be made available for showing elsewhere.

FOOD FOR FREEDOM

Lend-Lease Shipments

For every ship reported sunk scores of other ships arrive safely in port. Up to June 1, more than 5,178,000,000 pounds of farm products had been delivered to representatives of the United Nations for lend-lease shipment. During May alone, more than 200,000,000 pounds were delivered, including more than 50,000,000 pounds of meat and 40,000,000 pounds of dairy products. For the first time since the war started, Great Britain removed the ration restrictions on milk. This was made possible by temporary conditions in England's dairy market; even so, it was a substantial victory on the food front.

• The published list, from April 29 to June 1, 1942, included lots of other things. For instance, pepper, salt, vinegar, pickles, soybeans and soy flour, thiamin hydrochloride (vitamin B₁), ascorbic acid (vitamin C), fish liver oil (vitamin A), citric acid, oatmeal, cotton, tobacco, tar, biscuits, oxtail soup, shelled walnuts, orange marmalade, ground kola nuts, pomace, fountain fruit syrup. For the people in the other United Nations do not live by bread alone. They must have a minimum of spice, seasoning, and variety. Notable among the exports were 20 million pounds of agricultural seed.

Feed More Wheat

With the storage of a bumper wheat crop a major problem and with the corn reserves no longer as limitless as they once seemed, the obvious solution is to feed more wheat. Accordingly Secretary Wickard last month outlined a wheat feeding program to Extension Directors and War Board Chairmen from the Corn Belt States at Chicago, who carried it back home to the farmers.

And More High Protein Feeds

Whether livestock are fed wheat or corn, they need plenty of supplemental rations of high protein content, such as the meal or cake left as a byproduct after crushing oil-bearing seeds for the production of vegetable oils. There is a big increase this year in soybeans and peanuts, and record supplies of high-protein feeds are available this year for the biggest livestock population in United States history. In a page which the *Country Gentleman* placed at his disposal, by radio, and other means the Secretary is urging farmers to use this big protein supply.

Food-and-Clothing Meetings

Representatives of Extension and other agencies concerned will gather beginning August 10 at New York, Birmingham, Chicago, and Salt Lake City to discuss the wartime food and clothing situation. Groundwork for these meetings was laid at a Washington meeting called in mid-July by Extension Direc-

tor M. L. Wilson and BHE Chief Louise Stanley. The essential facts will be carried down to all farm homes through Extension's 800,000 neighborhood leaders..

How's Your Waste Measurement?

According to BAE, in cities large and small a sixth of the food purchased is chucked into the garbage can or otherwise wasted. A garbage survey showed the national average is 302 pounds of waste a year per person, for more than 53,000,000 urban Americans. New Yorkers lead with 328 pounds. Others are Pittsburgh, 313; Boston, 291; Los Angeles, 285; Cleveland, 281; Detroit, 246; Chicago, 212; Philadelphia, 203; Baltimore, 197; St. Louis, 196.

Sure, there's plenty of food in the stores. But America needs every bit of labor, machinery, steel, rubber, freight, fertilizer, shipping, storage space, and other things which go into the garbage can along with the scrapings from our plates.

Twice the Lime

This is expected to be the greatest crop year in American history—greatest in the history of the world. There are a number of reasons why. Not forgetting Providence and weather, the Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment program has had a lot to do with the abundant yields of crops needed quickly. Did you know that in 1941, farmers in 33 States received 7,292,737 tons of lime, more than twice the 1940 tonnage, as grants of aid? Cooperating farmers also used more than three times the amount of 20 percent superphosphate used in the previous year.

Minorities

The July *Employment Security Review* of U. S. Employment Service tells how the Government is successfully fighting discrimination against the employment of Negroes, Spanish-Americans, Jews, foreign-born, Indians, and other minority groups and gives many interesting facts about each. One well-worn slander on Jews, that "they are not farmers or producers," is exploded by the Food for Freedom now being raised by 100,000 Jewish farm people. True, in the earlier Dark Ages of Europe the Jew was denied the right to own or occupy farmland. Thus he traditionally entered trade or the professions. But in modern democracies Jews show the same ability as anybody to work in field and factory. America needs the productive capacity of every citizen. Discrimination against any minority group helps Hitler.

Although USDA workers got the jump on most Federal employees in car pooling, they still have a long way to go. About 600 of some 1,500 USDA workers who drive to work in Washington are now signed up for rotating groups. (See USDA, June 5.) An order has been issued which will virtually restrict parking space hereafter to members of rotating groups. Most field agencies are getting the plan started among their employees.

MANAGEMENT COLUMN

Blood Banks in the Field, Too

The Office of Personnel, which keeps a central file of those Washington employees who have made blood donations, would be glad to establish a similar record for USDA workers in the field. USDA clubs or other groups are encouraged to send in monthly reports to the Division of Training, Office of Personnel. Participation is limited to those within a 50-mile radius of the following cities: Baltimore, Boston, Brooklyn, Buffalo, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Indianapolis, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Rochester, N. Y., St. Louis, and San Francisco. Official leave is granted and transportation supplied by the Red Cross Motor Corps to groups of 14 or more.

Smoke Gets In Your Eyes

American tobacco is highly prized in the armies of the United Nations. And more efficient production and sale of tobacco (leasing land and labor for other uses) is encouraged by Federal-State grading service now available at all auction warehouses. This, in turn, means training competent inspectors for the grading, which must be done before the auctioneers begin their mumbo-jumbo in the tobacco belts next fall.

• Recently John R. Deatherage and Dan Braum of the Office of Personnel had a chance to watch J. E. O'Hara, AMA supervisor of tobacco inspection, as he trained a class of 19 candidates for per diem Civil Service appointments at Raleigh, N. C. Even those with experience as tobacco buyers did not understand the precise U. S. standards, and Mr. O'Hara had to correct certain misinformation or prejudices about tobacco qualities common in the tobacco belt. In a matter of weeks, AMA gave these men better training than they had acquired in years of experience. They learned by instruction sheets but most of all by handling it—"Get the tobacco to talk to you, and tell it where it belongs"—until they were able to grade unmarked samples correctly to correspond to the true Federal grade. That's the story of personnel training behind the smoke that gets in your eyes.

Most Versatile Employee?

Versatility among USDA employees is being encouraged as one way of meeting the manpower shortage. Nominations are in order for the most versatile worker. Who best represents the whole Department?

The leading candidate, according to some observers, might well be the forest supervisor or district ranger of the Forest Service. Some 559 counties are all or partly within national forest boundaries, and in hundreds of localities where

there is no other USDA employee, the farmers look to the ranger to keep in touch with things. He supplies them with bulletins and information about war crops needed, directs them to the nearest FSA or FCA office if they need a loan, to the nearest AAA office for information on allotments, etc. While he is not responsible for the work of any agency other than his own, he needs to be informed about all of them. His duty is not to the forest alone, but to the people in the forest.

Nominations are still open.

TRANSPORTATION

Farmers in Kingsbury County, S. Dak., set up an informal Transportation Association which has cut out 70 percent of the mileage of truckers holding State permits to haul farm produce and livestock. Also, by planned loads and trips with neighbors they will save many trips to market. In Talladega County, Ala., the milk trucks are picking up eggs along their routes, thus saving farmers the trip to town. Why not? In New Castle County, Del., fluid milk dealers, farmers, and supply companies are combining hauls. In some parts of Oregon when a farmer goes to town he gives a "general ring" over the party telephone line to pick up passengers or haul produce (this would work for suburban communities or most any place with a party line).

In Michigan, a merchant keeps a blackboard on which he posts names of farm people who have telephoned in for merchandise. People coming to the store check it for names of neighbors along their route, deliver the merchandise on their way home.

Thirteen 4-H youngsters in Morris and Hunterdon Counties, N. J., raise dogs to be used as seeing-eye guides for blinded soldiers or civilians.

KILL COPY-CAT

John S. Lucas, of Plant and Operations, has been thinking for years about the waste of money, space, and time caused by extra copies of letters, memos, and other paper work in USDA. He has it figured out like this: One 4-drawer file cabinet, like the one you probably have in the corner, will hold about 16,000 tissue copies with guides and folders. Sixty-two such cabinets will hold a million, made at a cost of 1 cent each. Counting the cost of cabinets (which use steel that could build ships) and of salaries and rent, these 1 million extra copies, such as can be found in almost any flourishing unit, cost the Government \$20,950. This does not include the time lost by the higher-paid personnel who file and search for these documents.

And often when a supervisor calls for an extra copy of one letter he finds that he needs to see the entire folder from the central office files anyway, in order to get the complete facts and background material. Better, then, if he just called the central office files

for the folder to begin with, and better also if he had never told his secretary to make an extra copy (some secretaries make them from force of habit).

Mr. Lucas, after observing one extra copy being made of a certain voucher, and examining reports covering this transaction through the United States, presented conclusive evidence that eliminating this one copy would save \$90,000. It was done.

Private Files Make Trouble

The existence of many "private files" often causes trouble, as well as expense. Secretaries and stenographers use a variety of filing systems, sometimes based on memory, although some use rainbow color schemes and guides which serve no purpose except to satisfy the ego of the boss.

As these people move from office to office (and who doesn't, nowadays?) they may leave their files for their successors to experiment with. Thus the files of the division, section, or individual specialist become ever more complex until the records eventually reach a saturation point. The operators in dismay call for help, or just give up, place the mess in storage, and start all over again. If they are eventually placed in the National Archives, it places an unfair burden on that organization.

The recommendation is to eliminate extra copies entirely, unless there is some definite reason why you really need one, and to use your central records organization, such as all large units in the Department have.

• Have you ever used the tickler service offered by your central records organization? Just send the File Room a letter or memo of which you want to be reminded before a certain date, with instructions to return.

Scouts Plant Trees

Boy Scouts have pounded the pavements collecting junk during the summer days when they would normally dream of camp. Here's a chance for the boys to do another kind of national service out of doors.

With the end of the Civilian Conservation Corps and the shortage of other labor the Forest Service has been troubled by many millions of seedling trees which will be wasted unless planted this year. E. S. Keithley, supervisor of the Pike National Forest, reports that a hundred Boy Scouts from Denver and Colorado Springs are planting a million young trees from an FS nursery on the region above Tumble Creek watershed above the Antero reservoir. The tent camp and the kids are supervised by Scout authorities; the tree-planting is supervised by FS foremen, and the boys are paid a nominal sum in wages.

• Local scoutmasters, if interested, should get in touch with the supervisor of their nearest national forest or Forest Service nursery.

The Embattled Farmers, 1942

It took a long time for the shots fired by the embattled farmers at Concord in 1775 to be heard around the world. American farmers today are actually heard around the globe in a matter of seconds.

Using a technique so honest and natural that Dr. Goebbel could never have thought of it, the Office of War Information is making it possible for plain Americans to talk to the plain people of other countries, including Germany, by short-wave radio.

An increasing number of these people are farmers of foreign ancestry, discovered by USDA workers. After checking the facts with the same accuracy used in all Department public information, the Department employees take the farmers to the recording studios where their messages are put on wax to be broadcast via short-wave.

Japanese

At Oklahoma City, Japanese-born farmer Nakayama left his vegetable booth in the municipal market, came to the radio station to say into the recording apparatus, "My oldest son is now in the U. S. Air Corps in Puerto Rico. He volunteered after Pearl Harbor. . . . My wife and I are loyal to our adopted country because its Government and people have allowed us to live here in freedom with the opportunity to enjoy the same liberties that every citizen in this land has and cherishes."

German

At Columbus, Ohio, German-born John Goebbel recorded for listeners in Germany his abhorrence of Herr Dr. Goebbels and all he stands for. "Back in Weilau, Germany," he recalled, "I was a humble farm hand. Today I have a farm of 115 acres—and all the land is mine. . . . On my farm my wife and I grow much food to help beat the Axis. . . . But we cannot send you food until the Nazis, who have robbed you, have been beaten in this war."

Italian

At Kansas City, five Italian produce vendors left their booths in the municipal market to assure their compatriots back home in Italy that they were not being molested in the United States, that they were loyal to this country and hoped the United Nations would soon win so that the people of all countries, including Italy, could be free.

Czech farmers, Norwegian farmers, descendants of many another proud, free race sent messages of hope to their kinsfolk overseas, told what they were doing to make that hope come true. So far American farmers have made recordings in 13 foreign languages.

• "Uncle Dan" Wallace, uncle of Vice President and former Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, described the vastness of our Food for Freedom program in a talk beamed to England, Western Europe, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand, China.

U S D A



August 20, 1942, Volume I, Number 13

Department Drives Against Inflation

Up until the summer of 1942 the Department, under Congressional authorization, had used its control over farm prices primarily as a tool to get increased production of what we needed to win the war. (See *USDA*, February 20, 1942.) But by August 19, when Secretary Wickard walked into Station WMAL at Washington to broadcast for less than a quarter-hour, it was clear that the big battle developing on the home front was the fight against inflation. The Secretary called for "united action across the whole front to keep up production, and to hold down increases in industrial prices, farm prices, and wages. Farmers want action now."

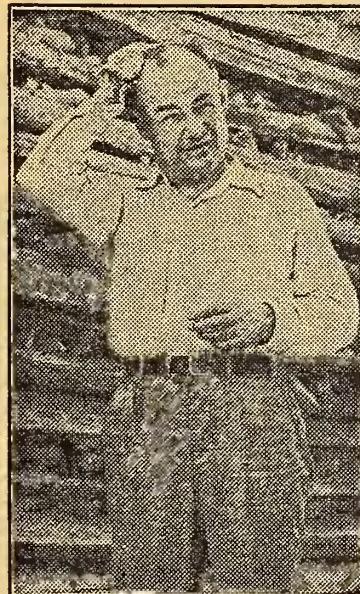
This call to unite was not just rhetoric. The Secretary proposed that farmers lead the way on two issues very much in the headlines. One was the pressure for ceilings on the prices of live meat animals. The other was the so-called 110 percent of parity limitation in the Price Control Act. His speech thus marked a major policy development for the Department, important for all employees to understand.

First, in regard to the proposed livestock ceilings. Some packers, the Secretary stated, were bidding up the price of livestock, offering more for livestock than the dressed meat would bring under existing retail price ceilings, in order to keep their line-up of customers. "The squeeze," he said, "has become so tight there is great danger of wide-open violations of the price ceilings for meats. Unless something is done, the whole structure of price control may be jeopardized."

Therefore Mr. Wickard said he was willing to give his approval (required by the present law) to ceilings on livestock prices if a practical plan for livestock marketing can be evolved, preventing abnormal profits to anyone in the industry at the expense of producers or consumers. "With the necessary measures, such as allocation of supplies,

the plan must facilitate a more equitable distribution of meats. Also, the plan must be one that not only will protect packers from high prices, but also will protect farmers from low prices."

In his speech Mr. Wickard rallied stoutly to the defense of the farmers, who are producing and selling to the limit, in the face of rising difficulties, and are not withholding one pound of meat.



Claude R. Wickard

Neither farmers nor the lack of ceilings on livestock prices had caused the local meat shortages, he said, and the imposition of ceilings would not end them. "The reasons for putting the ceilings on livestock prices are to keep the packing industry in full operation, and to safeguard the price-control structure."

The danger of inflation loomed in Mr. Wickard's mind as the most urgent question confronting the country on the home front today. Discussing the pro-

vision in the Price Control Act that prohibits ceilings on processed farm products if the ceiling price reflects a farm price of less than 110 percent of parity, he reminded the country frankly that a year ago he had testified before a House Committee in support of the 110 percent limitation, later enacted into law. At that time, prices were far below parity. Now, he said, farm prices have reached parity on an average. "Every day makes it clearer that we must put everything we've got into winning the war. Also every day makes it clear that we must take drastic steps to check inflation."

"Today the 110 percent provision is being pointed to by other groups to prove that farmers are asking for more than their fair share. It is being used as an argument to slow down economic controls in other fields. Under present circumstances I believe it would be wise to repeal this provision."

Not forgetting that production was all-important and that prices are still a major tool in getting production, the Secretary proposed that where necessary farmers be given increased returns on production of vital war commodities through subsidies, rather than through increased prices which may endanger the price-control structure.

Break the Log-Jam!

"Farmers want action now to win the fight against inflation. They favor controls clear across the board. But action is being held up behind a log-jam of unwillingness of each of the great economic groups to accept controls unless at the same time controls are placed on the others. Farmers are ready to lead in breaking the log-jam."

Meat

During the latter part of the fateful summer of 1942 the strain of the greatest of all wars began to tell on the food supply. Demand for meat had increased faster than supplies. Shortages were felt by consumers in some parts of the East.

As Marketing Administrator Roy Hendrickson said to the national con-

vention of retail meat dealers on August 17, "This meat shortage has puzzled many people, because all the statistics on livestock production have been unusually favorable."

Briefly, he said, the over-all reason for the meat shortage is the keen wartime demand for meat from three directions: From the armed forces, our Allies, and from the increased demand for meat from civilians here at home. American soldiers get about a pound of meat per day; the soldiers of our Allies, fighting with their backs to the wall, need all we can send them, too. During the year that began July 1, 1942, one-fourth of our total meat production will be needed for our Army, Navy, and Allies.

Nevertheless, the farmers, with the assistance of the Department (through price supports and other means) have done a remarkable job of production. After taking into account these requirements, there would still be left 11 billion pounds of meat, enough to meet a normal demand (judging by the average domestic consumption of federally inspected meat during 1931-40). But with a national income soaring to record highs, civilian demand for meat has soared likewise. Thus, during the year which began on July 1, 1942, there will be a shortage of 3 billion pounds of meat in relation to what civilians are willing and able to buy.

Consumers were also puzzled because the shortage was unevenly spread by localities. This was explained partly by the fact that there have been no ceilings on the price of livestock, while the meat which you buy at the butcher's counter is under a ceiling, based, of course, on the prices for dressed meats at that counter last March. As packers incline to sell their meat where they can get the highest return, some areas, such as New England, with relatively low price ceilings, have tended to be passed up in favor of other regions with higher ceilings. The Office of Price Administration, Mr. Hendrickson reported, is taking steps to correct these inequities.

Finally, although farmers are moving cattle to market in record numbers for this time of year, there was a seasonal angle in the mid-summer meat shortage. Slaughter of cattle and hogs is always light during July, August, and early September. The Department did all it could to help. Until livestock marketings pick up in the fall, AMA temporarily reduced lend-lease meat purchases, and went below the ceilings specified for AMA buying, on those purchases still being made. To help packers, caught in a squeeze between livestock prices without a ceiling and dressed meat prices under a ceiling, the Department announced that it would make agreements with packers who may be in difficulties so they can process meats for the Government on a contract basis. This last step does not add to the total meat supply but it will keep some processors in business and ready to handle this fall's record slaughter, when we will have a fourth more hogs than ever before and large numbers of cattle.

Substitute Materials

- Glass pipes have been installed in the USDA's big Beltsville, Md., dairy barn, and lacquered milk cans are being used to carry milk between the farm and the cafeterias and the Employees' Welfare Store in Washington, in order to test these materials as substitutes for the metals used in the dairy industry.

Saving Ships

By high-pressure, short-exposure heating, Dr. B. H. Webb in BDI has proved the possibility of saving about 20 percent of the shipping space, and 20 percent of the tin cans, used in transporting evaporated milk to United Nations fronts around the world. The process increases the solids content of evaporated milk from 27 percent (the present Federal standard) to 32 percent (the British standard).

Butteroil

● Butter doesn't keep in hot weather without refrigeration but butteroil will. Fallen into disuse in this land of universal ice boxes, butteroil is being revived by BDI for possible use in warm climates. It can be used as a liquid spread or in cooking, like olive oil, or mixed readily into a butter spread by the addition of water, and a little dehydrated skim milk.

Castor Oil

● Formerly we imported large amounts of castor beans needed for drying oil which because of shipping difficulties we shall need to raise at home.

AAA and BPI are cooperating with CCC in working out plans for receiving, hulling, and storing beans from the 1942 crop of 7,500 acres, which CCC will buy and hold for planting next spring, if needed.

War Bonds

● Preliminary reports on war bond subscriptions from 26 of the Department's 30 bureaus and offices in Washington showed that about 9 percent, or approximately \$90,000 out of the million dollar Washington pay roll has been signed up for war bond subscriptions. Complete field reports are not yet available. Nine percent is close, but it isn't good enough. Our goal is 10 percent or better.

Latin-American Trainees

As one part of the agricultural training program for Latin-Americans, referred to by Secretary Wickard recently in his Mexico City address, 20 agricultural officials and students from Latin-American countries will begin in-service training about the first of September in agricultural economics research and administration of United States agricultural programs in the Department, according to an announcement by Dr. Eric Englund, assistant chief of BAE and director of the training program.

Under the BAE training program, trainees will study fact-gathering and research in the agricultural social sciences in BAE. At the same time, they will learn about agricultural programs carried on by the entire Department. When each trainee has selected the subject in which he is particularly interested,



In the Agricultural Workers Camp at Bridgeton, N. J., hot coffee and sandwiches are being served to migrant workers just arrived from Florida. Out of its programs to relieve the distress caused by a surplus of migratory farm labor in the years before the war, the Farm Security Administration has evolved programs to help relieve shortages now that the laborers are few.

terested, he will have the opportunity of continuing his study in field offices of Department agencies, or in Washington.

Nominations for trainees are being submitted by Latin-American governments through the United States Department of State.

PAY RAISES FOR 5,000

Presidential approval of Public Law No. 694 August 5 brought pay raises for some 5,000 messengers, charwomen, mechanics, building guards, chauffeurs, and other Department employees in the subprofessional and custodial services.

Principal results of the Act are to:

(1) Establish a \$1,200 minimum for all full-time adult workers in place of the present minimum of \$1,020 in the subprofessional service and \$1,080 in the custodial service; and to raise the hourly rates for part-time charwomen from 50 to 65 cents, and for head charwomen, from 55 to 70 cents.

(2) Establish a \$1,500 minimum for building guards in lieu of the present minimum of \$1,200, and to adjust the salaries of sergeants, lieutenants, and captains in the same grade relationship as now exists.

(3) Establish an \$1,860 minimum for journeymen mechanics in lieu of the present minimum of \$1,680.

(4) Change the name of the custodial service to the "crafts, protective, and custodial service."

The Act became effective August 1.

FARM LABOR

• New Jersey's War Board is working on a plan for a revolving pool of southern farm labor to be transported to New Jersey camp sites, and work out from the camps on surrounding farms.

• In Fort Riley, Kans., a State College professor, with the help of Scoutmasters at Manhattan, organized Boy Scouts into a "weed army." They work on a half-day basis and turn in a good job, releasing adult available farm labor for other work.

• Farmers in Malheur County, Oreg., overcame their labor shortage in the sugar beet fields with the aid of 450 Japanese laborers, of whom 150 were in custody of local farmers. There was no trouble at all with the Japanese, whom many farmers considered the most thorough workers they have ever had.

• Out in Nemaha County, Nebr., this is how farmers expect to cope with the labor shortage: First, farm labor has been registered by the USDA county war board; second, all women interested in helping harvest the fruit crop have been registered; third, Chamber of Commerce members have promised to help as long as their assistance does not displace any person who wants to obtain work.

Wickard, McNutt Announce New Program

On August 7 Secretary Wickard and Chairman Paul V. McNutt of the War Manpower Commission announced new measures to help avert shortages of farm labor in critical producing areas. With half a million dollars allotted to USDA from the President's emergency funds, Farm Security Administration will handle the program in cooperation with State and County USDA war boards and the United States Employment Service as follows:

To begin with, farmers hire whom they can get in their neighborhoods, then ask the employment office for help. If the employment office finds it necessary to recruit from a distance, the FSA will help transport workers. The farmers who want the workers will pay for their transportation up to 200 miles, and FSA will pay for additional mileage. In all cases farmers must meet certain standards of wage and living conditions in order to qualify for transportation help from FSA in obtaining workers. They must pay newcomers the going wage in the community for that kind of work, with a minimum of 30 cents an hour or the equivalent on a piece-work basis, must provide employment for at least three-fourths of the time they are in the area, not counting Sundays, and must provide satisfactory housing.

• Mexico will allow farm workers to come into the United States only if and when the domestic supply of farm workers becomes inadequate in certain areas. Under an arrangement with the Mexican Government, such workers will have the same protection in regard to pay, amount of work, and housing, and their transportation will be paid both ways. The Mexicans will not be used to displace domestic workers but will serve only to meet additional needs. The Mexican part of the arrangement requires the cooperation of the Immigration Service and the Public Health Service, as well as United States Employment Service and Farm Security.

TRANSPORTATION

A booklet is in preparation for State and County War Boards on neighborhood pooling of transportation, one of the most urgent jobs confronting the farmer.

In Greene County, Ohio, USDA workers from various agencies are using a Commodity Credit Corporation station wagon, keeping daily mileage records. Each agency will pay its share of the operating expenses after a monthly calculation.

• Idea from the Washington State War Board on salvaging rubber: Save even the smallest pieces, erasers from pencils, and pile them by the farm mailbox where passersby can pick them up and take into town. Dairy trucks can

pick them up, too. Virginia suburbanites found old batteries, other rubber scrap in a short search over the town dump-heap.

• The New Mexico War Board recommends to stockmen in outlying districts that they drive livestock in outlying areas to improved roads, the better to save tires and equipment.

STORAGE

Wheat

Suggestions from the Washington State War Board for storing wheat: Use empty farm buildings, stores, garages with cement floors; build 20 x 24 log cabins; use 4-ply paper sacks. A Michigan county paper carried a full-page ad by elevators warning that elevator storage facilities would not be sufficient, and another page by lumber companies, saying they had plenty of lumber available for building bins.

Soybeans

Prospects are that CCC can take delivery of only a small part of the bumper soybean crop at harvest; thus a farmer who wants a loan and can meet farm storage requirements (about the same as for shelled corn) will be able to cash in with a loan. In order to handle the bumper soybean crop crushers will have to run at capacity all year and some beans may not move until next summer. After crushers' own storage space is filled, there'll be little available except on farms.

• CCC's prefabricated or precut bins will be available through AAA committees. Those who want to build new storage should start now to get materials and labor.

MACHINERY

In Mississippi under a plan of the GFA farm cooperative and the CCC, a special agent has been designated in peanut counties to receive, assemble, store, deliver, and service peanut pickers. One picker is allotted to each 500 acres. Pickers can be bought on time. If the farmers stop growing peanuts after the war they can return the pickers to the cooperative and be reimbursed, less one-third of the purchase price.

• Missouri soybean counties are making a survey to see whether enough soybean harvesting equipment is available.

Trailer Thresher

The "trailer thresher," light in weight and an "all crop" machine, is helping solve farm problems in areas where one-crop farming has been the rule. Designed by TVA engineers, the new machine makes it practical to diversify by growing small acreages of various crops that would not be profitable without this

aid in harvesting—and to grow crops in fields away from the relatively level roads over which standard threshing equipment has to move.

The machine can be operated with a 7-horsepower gasoline motor that requires only 5 gallons of gas and a pint of oil for a 10-hour run. In an hour it can thresh 25 to 50 bushels of wheat or 30 to 60 bushels of barley, or 50 to 90 of oats, or 10 to 20 of rye, or 15 to 30 of soybeans, or 10 to 20 of lespedeza or $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 bushels of clover seed.

• FSA reports 25 neighbor farmers in the Claxton Community, Anderson County, Tennessee, are threshing their small grain fields at a surprisingly low cost, using cooperatively a baby thresher mounted on rubber tires. Hitched to the back of an automobile, it can be moved over paved highways at 50 miles an hour, and is so light it can be set up in places inaccessible to the ordinary machine. The thresher is of hammer-mill type, because crops cut with a mower and raked with a dump rake often include rocks and roots that ruin cylinders with rigid parts.

MANAGEMENT COLUMN

Training for War Boards

State and county USDA war boards, set up in a rush to do a rush job, have had no time for formal training. But in New Jersey FCA has found it desirable to hold schools for production credit association men to acquaint them with their responsibilities as members of the war boards. The State war board suggests that similar schools would help county war board chairmen (who are, of course, the AAA chairmen for their counties).

Training for Processors

In September, the Department will open a school on food dehydration in Albany, Calif., near Berkeley, and another in Rochester, N. Y., in mid-October. These schools, which are being conducted by the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering, will be chiefly for the benefit of canners who plan to enter the dehydrated foods business. In frozen foods, the principal demand for education has come from retailers.

Forest Ranger's Anniversary

The 500th program of "Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers," one of the oldest dramatized educational programs on the air, was scheduled for August 21, on the Farm and Home Hour. Since Pearl Harbor, the 10-year-old program has featured the Department's wartime forestry work. The program is supervised by its originator Ed Randall of FS with the assistance of his faithful dog, Ranger. Present script writer is W. W. Bergoffen, who served as a Forest Ranger for 5 years in the Southern Forest Region.

Green Hands but Willing

During the fiscal year ended June 30 about 5,000 left the Department for the armed services, 7,639 to work for other Federal agencies, 3,313 for private employment, 7,603 were separated because of reductions in force or for other Departmental reasons, and almost 5,000 were separated for general reasons such as illness, death, or retirement. In June alone, there were 3,800 new appointments to replace some of those who had gone.

Like the farmers, the Department has its labor troubles. At the present rate of turn-over by the end of the year half our employees may be new hands—willing, but green. Suggestions for newcomers and seasoned employees who want to help newcomers:

(1) Arrange to listen at least occasionally to the National Farm and Home Hour each weekday (12:30 p. m., E. W. T.). On Fridays throughout the summer Secretary Wickard talks; on Tuesdays is broadcast "The Greatest Farm Story of All Time."

(2) The weekly magazine *Victory*, sent by the Office of War Information to many offices, contains facts all USDA workers should know and be prepared to tell others. Pass it around; don't bury it in a file.

(3) Hand around your copies of *USDA* promptly; write the editor if you know something other employees ought to know. Closing dates for new material are the 5th and 20th of each month.

(4) Good reading: "Landmarks in the History of the Department of Agriculture," by T. Swann Harding. A few copies are available from the Office of Personnel. Also, "Chronology of Agriculture's Part in the War" (mimeographed, Background Information Series No. 4).

Split Personality

Secretary Wickard, guest conductor of the Federal employee column in a



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Washington daily last month wrote: "The other day, as one of the two members of the British-American Combined Food Board, I put my name to a letter addressed to myself as chairman of the Foods Requirements Committee. I was sitting at the desk which I use as Secretary of Agriculture. Being a three-job man sometimes brings complications."

• We are doing our job, he pointed out, with a working force only 1,500 larger than it was last year, and 6,000 smaller than in 1940.

Transfers Under War Service Regulations

The Office of Personnel, in supplements to Personnel Circular No. 120, recently issued new instructions governing negotiations and releases for transfers under the War Service Regulations. The War Service Regulations provide that the Department must consent to the proposed transfer of a Department employee to another department or agency having the same or lower priority classification before the transfer can be made. The Civil Service Commission may transfer a Department employee to an agency with a higher priority classification, however, without the consent of the Department, provided the Department is given an opportunity to present objections to the transfer. Until the new policy was adopted, the Director of Personnel granted all releases and made all objections on behalf of the Department. Now bureau chiefs or officials designated by them are authorized to grant releases and make objections, unless the proposed transfer involves a bureau chief, assistant bureau chief, head bureau personnel officer, head bureau fiscal officer, or similar official.

If transfer is proposed from one bureau to another within the Department, the bureau desiring the employee must negotiate with the bureau in which he is employed to obtain consent to the transfer. If the negotiations are unsuccessful, the bureau chief may refer the case to the Director of Personnel for any further negotiations and for a decision. The transfer must take place within 10 days after it is agreed upon, unless the Director of Personnel approves a longer period.

• A number of employees who have left the Department to accept positions in high priority war agencies have lost reemployment rights in the Department under E. O. No. 9067, because the other agency failed to follow the prescribed procedure for transfer under the War Service Regulations, by obtaining the approval of the Civil Service Commission to the transfer and giving the Department of Agriculture a chance to object. Since it is the individual employee who is penalized for failure to follow the regular procedure, and not the agency to which he goes, Department employees should be sure not to accept positions in other agencies unless the regular transfer procedure has been observed.

U S D A



September 5, 1942, Volume I, Number 14

The Department of Agriculture at War

Food for Freedom is the Department's front line of action. Behind the scenes in hundreds of USDA offices and laboratories some of the most interesting jobs of the war are in progress. Many are confidential, and cannot be summarized even for Department employees until the war is over. Others, however, can be told. Here are some of the things some Department offices are now doing, on their own initiative or at the request of military and naval authorities:

Protecting Trees

The Dutch elm disease destroys not only a valuable property but a useful screen against air observation and attack. The white pine blister rust on watersheds menaces a tree which protects war industries from the dangers of flood. Thus in the Muskingum conservancy district, in Ohio, where the Army has built \$45,000,000 worth of flood control reservoirs, Entomology and Plant Quarantine is cooperating with the district, with labor being furnished by the Navy, in order to protect the pine trees which guard these watersheds against erosion.

- When we dry (dehydrate) food for overseas shipment it still needs protection against bugs. Methods of doing this without in any way adversely affecting the foods are being worked out.

- To alleviate the itching caused by bites of mosquitoes, chiggers, fleas, sandflies, and other pests, counter-irritants can be developed when we know more about the kinds and compositions of toxins injected with bites of such insects. E&PQ also is testing repellents, or things that keep the pests away; three or four have been found satisfactory enough to start making toxicological tests on humans.

- Because certain insect secretions have been shown highly beneficial in treating deep-seated bone diseases, E&PQ was given the job of developing comparable synthetic chemicals which can equally well or better be used. Sev-

eral of these have been found and are now being used by the medical profession.

Better Bulls, Better Milk

Most of the publicity about the enormous expansion of dairy products for victory has centered on the farmer and the cow. But better sires make more productive cows. The Department's Bureau of Dairy Industry itself owns some of the finest Jersey and Holstein bulls in the world, from the standpoint of purity of inheritance for high level of production. They live on the green pastures of the Experimental Farm at Beltsville, Md. (Unlike some private breeders, USDA is concerned solely with quantity and quality of milk, not with show points to win silver cups in the show-ring.) Of these bulls the BDI has loaned out 267 to private herds and 10 of these are in artificial breeding circuits, where their influence is spread manyfold through artificial insemination. BDI tries to place every bull in some farm herd where he will not only be used for experimental purposes but where his daughters will raise the average production. Of course, these experimental bulls are only a drop in the bucket. Main job is to help the average farmer raise the level of milk production through better breeding stock.

BDI keeps the records which prove, or sample, the ability of privately owned bulls to raise levels of milk production in some 31,000 dairy herd improvement associations throughout the United States. By keeping records of the daughters' production and comparing them with that of their dams, BDI is able to check on the 100,000 bulls now listed in their files.

- What this means in terms of milk and winning the war: *The average yearly production per cow last year in association herds was 8,133 pounds; the average for all cows in the United States was only 4,742.*

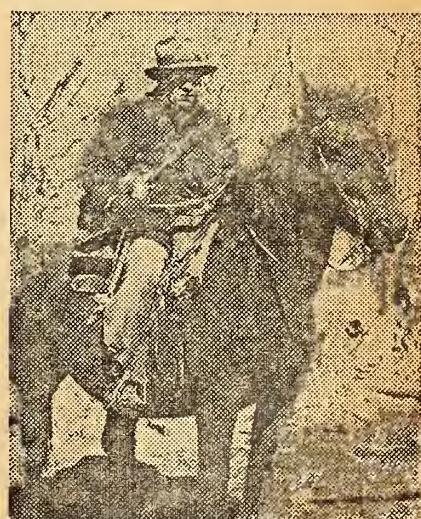
Dr. Mingle and the Second Front

Carrying close to his body for warmth a bacteriological culture for the production of vaccine which will help the British protect their cattle from brucellosis (Bang's disease), Dr.

C. K. Mingle, BAI research worker, flew to England this summer by bomber. The vaccine, developed in this country as part of our own campaign against the disease, was promptly put into production in British laboratories and with brucellosis under control, the average production of British cows is expected to increase greatly. The more British milk produced, the less ship-space needed for American milk and the more available for the Second Front. Dr. Mingle's flying trip followed a preliminary survey, made in England last year by Dr. Adolph Eichhorn, director of the Animal Disease Station of BAI, which led to official requests of further U. S. assistance.

INSPECTING

Hundreds of USDA workers under the Agricultural Marketing Administration are grading and inspecting the millions of cases of canned fruits, vegetables, and fish purchased by the Army and Navy and for shipment to our allies. In 1931 there were only 2 men in the Federal canned fruit and vegetable grading service; now there are 300 inspectors alone, and more are needed.



National gas rationing won't bother Ty Butcher, Crook Co., Wyo., FSA supervisor.

Men and Women Too

Inspection at the field or at shipping points is handled by field men using cars equipped with testing devices. But samples are often taken back to the laboratories for more thorough tests by women using the elaborate equipment. The Chicago, Philadelphia, and San Francisco laboratories, for example, have vacuum ovens, refractometers to measure sugar content, devices to determine acidity, solidity, insolubility and moisture, and other complex instruments for scientifically accurate grading of supplies for Greenland's icy mountains or Africa's coral strand. From the San Francisco lab, working three shifts a day 7 days a week, three-fourths of the food inspected goes to the Pacific Fleet.

AMA also operates a continuous inspection service night and day at 50 plants (there'll be 60 by the end of this year). This service must be requested by the canner and paid for by him, but a plant must meet certain rigid requirements before a full time Federal inspector can be obtained. Some plants have been turned down. Products from these "continuous inspection" plants are labeled with the appropriate Federal Grade—A, B, or C (all, of course, good food). The continuously inspected plants are forming an organization to be known as the "U. S. Inspected Foods Education Service," to publicize continuously inspected products.

300 Foods and Fibers

But canned fruit and vegetable inspection is only part of the story. AMA has the job of inspecting, grading, or classifying about 300 food and fiber products bought for shipment to our allies, as well as a large part of those used by civilian consumers here at home. (Price ceilings and rationing have thrown the spotlight on federal grading and inspection of foods on the home front.) It takes about 4,500 Federal and Federal-State employees to identify the quality of raw and processed food products and to translate that quality into terms of the official Government standards.

Meat Inspection

Another big wartime food inspection job in USDA is done by the Bureau of Animal Industry. All Army, Navy, and Lend-Lease meat and most meat on the home market is federally inspected. As a result of the war, BAI has added 417 new inspectors since July 1941, and now has 2,715. These are divided into 854 veterinary inspectors, who examine carcasses in the packing plants for traces of disease, and 1,861 "lay inspectors," laymen who look over the canned meat products, margarine, etc., and also watch for proper labeling. But protection of the wartime meat supply really begins with the 12,000 American veterinarians. Despite the great increase in livestock numbers, said BAI Chief John R. Mohler at the vet's convention last month, the Government is sure the vets can do the job.

Spade Work for Next Spring

The farm production goals for 1943 will cover 37 farm commodities or groups of commodities and tell how much of each is needed during the coming crop year to meet the needs of the armed services and civilians, and our allies, not forgetting the hunger of those people in Axis-occupied nations who will rise to join the armies of democracy as they advance. To help American farmers achieve these production goals will again be the first duty of the USDA workers.

"Feasible" and "Potential"

Even more than in setting industrial goals for production of planes, ships, and tanks, the farm production goals must be calculated right the first time. Change-over from ships to planes may be difficult and expensive, but a change-over from cotton to corn after seed is in the ground is absolutely impossible. "There is only one time to plant, and if you are not ready at the right time, you have lost a year's production forever," says Secretary Wickard.

Fortunately, the 1943 production goals rest on the solid basis of a State-by-State inventory of "feasible" and "potential" agricultural production during 1943, requested by the Secretary on March 2, 1942, and delivered to him from BAE on the August 15 deadline he had set. This allowed time for Mr. Wickard to meet with the Combined Food Board (See *USDA*, June 5) and with the representatives of the Army, Navy, Lend-Lease Administration, State Department, and the War Production Board who make up the Nation's Foods Requirements Committee, of which he is chairman.

To meet the deadline meant that about 100 people in Washington toiled up to 70 hours a week or longer during the final month putting the finishing touches on this enormous undertaking. The work was headed by an interbureau committee, of which Sherman Johnson, BAE (now OAWR), was chairman; J. L. Orr, AAA; Bushrod Allin, BAE; T. L. Gaston, SCS; P. L. Koenig, BAE; Carl Gibboney, FSA; W. R. Chapline, FS; C. E. Kellogg, BPI; Neil W. Johnson, BAE; Russell Kifer, BAE; F. V. Waugh, AMA; Richard Smith, BAE; C. W. Warburton, FCA; C. W. Crickman, BAE; P. V. Kepner, Extension Service; David Meeker, OAWR; O. C. Stone, BAE. In addition, eleven commodity committees were appointed, as well as groups dealing with procedures and with marketing.

It Was Done Like This

As soon as "procedures had been determined," virtually the whole Department went to bat and regional State offices of various USDA agencies represented on the interbureau committee began to gather estimates. As it wasn't possible to make a detailed survey of the resources of each of the 3,000

counties, the States first decided upon the major differences in types of farming and selected sample counties accordingly. From the records kept by AAA, BAE, and other agencies they determined the important differences in systems of farming within these sample areas. Next, they talked over with groups of farmers in the sample counties what they thought they would be able to do: First, the "feasible" production, meaning the continuation of current agricultural programs, allowing for intensified difficulties next year, and finally, "potential" production, or the use of areas of reserve capacity for possible expansion in case of extreme need (for example, hillside pastures could be plowed for corn, contrary to good farming practice, if it just had to be done).

Next, on the basis of the estimates made in the sample counties, State USDA offices determined total acreages for the States, regional offices made the regional estimates, and finally Washington totaled up the national score.

"Willing and Able"

The final report, which compares the possibilities for 1943 with actual production in 1941 and indicated production in 1942, summarizes our Nationwide capacity to produce major farm commodities, and makes separate estimates for the 48 States and 6 regional groupings of States. In general, the findings indicate that the tremendous 1942 production job will be carried out within the objectives of the conservation program, without plowing up the hillsides or the Dust Bowl.

Farmers are willing and able to surpass their unprecedented production totals of 1942, the report states, although adjustments will be necessary to overcome the most serious shortages of labor, equipment, and materials. Production expansion is now limited in many areas; further increases in any one crop must come from more efficient farming or the substitution of one crop for another—for example, more soybeans may reduce corn or oat acreage, more peanuts may reduce cotton, more flax may mean less wheat.

As a whole, the production picture still contains wide flexibility, it is said. A feasible planting of over 5 million acres of peanuts is contrasted with an all-out potential of 10 million acres. The effective utilization of this flexibility is said to be limited by many factors, such as traditional farming practices, customary markets, price complexes, and lack of farming skill. Each of these factors presents a problem for further analysis, some of which is now being undertaken.

This winter a ten-acre plot of Woodlake Community Farms, a FSA project in Trinity County, Texas, will grow an experimental planting of devil's shoe-string seedlings, superior in rotenone

Fiestas From a Field Trip

content, developed over a period of years by V. A. Little, Texas A. and M.

The Pan American exhibits in the Patio of the Department building last winter were only the props of a successful road show in which USDA people are serving as authors, producers, directors, and property men. Playing under the title of "Pan American Fiesta" to largely rural audiences, the production is now in its second year.

Guy Bush, AAA Regional Information Representative at Denver, went on official business to South America in the winter of 1940-41. Shortly after his return, traveler Bush, then stationed at Des Moines, Iowa, was asked to show color slides and movies of his trip to the Greenfield (Iowa) Progress Club, a women's "study club." Somehow, the study session which was to feature Mr. Bush developed into a community celebration of Pan American day on April 14, 1941, which set the pattern. In each town local civic groups, stimulated to action by suggestions from the local AAA committees, plan and carry out the Fiestas by themselves with the Government furnishing some of the exhibits, materials, and the general plan. To each Fiesta, AAA and OFAR bring a leading representative from Latin American countries as speaker. At the suggestion of Sr. Manuel Giron-Cerna, a Guatemalan journalist, a description of each Fiesta is transcribed and broadcast to Central and South American countries.

Displays go into merchants' windows on Main Street but the real show is provided by the people of the community. They parade and stage pageants in costumes found throughout the Americas, raise the flags of the several Republics in a fine ceremony, try to speak a form of Spanish, eat Spanish dishes featured on restaurant menus, sample the Brazilian tea maté, strive to win War Stamps by answering questions on Latin America, listen to the school or town band display its mastery of Latin American selections. In some towns as many as 1500 people will have parts in the program. A street dance usually ends the day.

In 1942 so far, Fiestas have been held in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Montana. The Fiesta will make single one-day stands in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, and New Mexico in the next few months. Experience has shown that towns under 10,000 offer the best ground for this proponent of Good Neighborness.

Mexican Farm Security

"During the entire time I spent in the rural areas in Mexico," said Secretary Wickard last month of his trip in June, "I did not see one tractor. Nearly all the transportation is done by burros; the burdens are just placed upon their backs. Oxen are used for pulling the simple field implements. Today Mexican farmers are trying to

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increase their production, too, and they are greatly in need of small hand tools, such as sickles, rakes and hoes, and I hope that we can find enough steel somehow to help them at least a little bit."

• Mr. Wickard during his trip was impressed with the effort that has been made by the Mexican Government to restore the land to the people who work on the land, who are largely Indians. "In the early days, through one circumstance or another, the land was taken away from the Indians and most of it came into the hands of very large land owners. The Mexican Government has undertaken to restore it to the farmers through a national program, which in some instances is like our Farm Security program. Needless to say, the people on the land are very happy to have the Government take this action."

Trainees

About 20 Latin American trainees, from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Panama, Peru and Uruguay, are expected to work with REA this year. According to the program begun last year, they will be both employees and students, working in various REA divisions and making field trips to learn the actual operation of rural electric cooperatives. Members of a Manitoba commission also visited REA headquarters at St. Louis this summer. The Canadians were studying rural electrification as it is being carried out in the United States.

FARM LABOR

John W. Studebaker, U. S. Commissioner of Education, has written to all superintendents of schools outlining the emergency need for farm workers, recommended school adjustments, the placement of youth on farms, and the effective coordination of the program generally through cooperation with U. S. Employment Service, County USDA War Boards, farmers, parents, and teachers of vocational agriculture.

• At the request of the California War Board the State Department of Education is getting up a printed course of study for city schools to show city high school students how they can help win the war by farm work. This is looking to 1943, when the farm labor situation will be even tighter than it was this year.

Government Girls

A group of five Government girls with farm backgrounds, including Miss Ann Widmyer, FSA, went up from Washington one August weekend to Clearfield, Pa., where they made arrangements with farmers in the vicinity to work during their two-weeks va-

cation for board, room, and \$21 a month. The girls arranged to alternate vacations so that the farmers would always have help.

• Of all desk workers, USDA employees should be the first to volunteer for vacation farm work. It will help the farmers, and a little first-hand experience with agriculture can help a lot of us.

The Ever-Useful County Agent

County Agent A. Eugene Harris, Meade County, Kansas, has been acting as intermediary between farmers and college students looking for vacation work. By means of letters and bulletin board notices mailed to colleges in Kansas he located 100 students interested in farm jobs and provided the information to interested farmers.

MACHINERY

Peanut Picker, \$2.09

The boys of a 4-H Club in Conway County, Ark., under supervision of the county agent and with plans from the State agricultural college, built their own peanut-picking machine at a cost of \$2.09 for hardware, cloth, lumber, poultry wire, bolts, and nails. Hundreds of farmers who saw this homemade machine during July in the office of County Agent Lucius Cothren at Morrilton, asked for the construction plans.

Care, Repair, Share

Unable to extend services to many rural consumers because of the metal shortage, REA, like many a private business hit by the war, has taken on the worthwhile job of helping Americans get along with things they already have. REA-financed co-ops are urging their members to care for their electrical farm and household equipment, repair it while parts can still be had, and share its use with their neighbors. Calls for a million and a half copies of leaflets telling housewives how to care for electric equipment and make it last reached REA headquarters at St. Louis within a single week after the first offer.

• Modern version of plowshares into swords is the armament program of the National Farm Machinery Cooperative at Shelbyville, Ind. Although this co-op only began to assemble tractors in January 1940, by the following spring it was beginning to work for tank manufacturers. After the outbreak of war, it began a 24-hour schedule turning out tank armament.

• To lengthen the lives of tractors and other farm machinery, since few new ones are being turned out now, many cooperatives are opening machinery repair services, FCA reports. Among the cooperative programs already set up for conserving farm machinery are those in Indiana, Ohio, and Michigan, and the Farmers Union Central Exchange, St. Paul, Minn. These

programs vary somewhat within the different States but all lean heavily on the repairing and servicing angles. In addition, many local associations throughout the country have built up successful individual records in machinery services.

Victory School on Wheels

Last month Elliot Robbins, Negro County Agent in Butler County, Ala., wrote to each Negro farmer and farm boy in the county limits, invited him to a Victory School on Wheels which would visit a farm in his community on a stated day during the month of August. The demonstrations included a method of harvesting peanuts, making stacking poles for peanuts and hay with and without nails, making the Homemade Peanut Picker (see above), and repairing and making harness. Each farmer was asked to bring poles, old bridle or harness needing repairing and some old wire, and for good measure, all his old scrap iron, rubber, rags, aluminum, copper, and brass. Half of the proceeds from scrap were converted into War Savings Stamps which were returned to each community for school or church improvement after war; the other half went towards the expenses of operating the Victory School on Wheels.

With the rapid growth of high-line electrification, sponsored by REA, a good many farms have good power plants they no longer need. Following a request from the Signal Corps the Secretary instructed State and County War Boards to make a quick check-up on such plants available for purchase on farms. The job was done in a matter of days.

Frank Burns, former AAA information man now in the Signal Corps, suggested the services of the Department to the Army in this connection.

MANAGEMENT COLUMN

Employees in the Kansas AAA office keep in touch with fellow workers now in military service with a monthly newsletter, the *Kansas AAA Assembly Call*. Produced out of hours by the editorial staff, the letter conveys office gossip, AAA program developments, and the good wishes of those left behind.

Together at Last

For years Arthur B. Thatcher, chief of USDA Plant & Operations, has been trying to get the various Department offices in each city and town throughout the country housed closer together for purposes of economy, cooperation, and public convenience. With wartime pressure on tires and time the need is even more urgent. Last month for the first time, all USDA offices in one State capital were able to get under one roof. At Jackson, Miss., offices of the AAA,

AMA, SCS, FSA and FS, previously scattered among nine separate buildings, moved into the reconditioned Masonic Temple Building.

FCIC branch offices at Minneapolis, Spokane, and Kansas City have been closed and a new office opened at Denver to serve the West. The Chicago office will serve all States east of the Mississippi, and Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Arkansas, and Missouri.

A printed folder, "Suggestions to Supervisors for Quickly and Effectively Training New Employees and Developing Understudies," is available on request to the Division of Training, Office of Personnel, Washington, D. C. It was prepared by a Departmental committee on improvement of supervision.

Regional AMA Offices

Effective September 15, the field functions of the Distribution Branch of the Agricultural Marketing Administration, part of the field functions of the Purchase Branch, and certain other functions will be assigned to regional administrators for supervision. Other responsibilities will be delegated to them later.

The seven regional administrators and their headquarters are: Buell F. Maben, Northeast, New York City; Col. James H. Palmer, Southern, Atlanta; E. C. Pollock, Great Lakes, Chicago; J. S. Russell, Midwest, Des Moines; E. O. Mather, Rocky Mountain, Denver; Merritt A. Clevenger, Pacific Coast, San Francisco; Lester J. Cappleman, Southwest, Dallas.

"Keeping Livestock Healthy," 1942 Yearbook of Agriculture issued last month, may prove to be the last as Congress provided no funds for printing its successor. If the 1942 Yearbook should end the series, it is worthy of the honor. It contains 1,276 pages of useful fact, clearly written, on a subject vital to war production.



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Fewer Fairs, More Thanksgiving

Fewer farm and city families this fall will enjoy their annual visit to the fair. But plans are being discussed for community celebrations of the great Food for Freedom harvest. A prolonged Thanksgiving is due for the bounty which not only spared us the starvation of other lands but will enable us to relieve their hunger when we have fought through to victory.

Small town and suburban people, as well as farm families, will take part in thousands of Victory Garden shows to be held this fall.

Department People

Benjamin J. Birdsall, USDA soil scientist, will be director of the Peruvian Agricultural Experiment Station being established at Tingo Maria, Peru, based on the U.S.-Peruvian agreement signed in April.

In addition to members of the REA engineering staff called to the colors, twelve REA engineers have volunteered to help the Signal Corps at its request on a temporary assignment constructing overhead lines in 46 States, Alaska, and the Virgin Islands. They are Reginald E. Cole, Peter A. Mancini, Robert Welty, Harold R. Brown, John P. Hewitt, Frederick B. Liquin, James B. Payne, Raymond W. Lynn, Earl F. Clark, Glyden F. McNeel, David E. Alexander, and Frank F. Holmes.

James E. Wells, Jr., has been appointed Deputy Governor of the Farm Credit Administration to give special attention to short-term agricultural credit matters, along with other duties.

Dr. W. W. Stockberger, special adviser to the Secretary, who reached retirement age last July, was promptly reemployed in his present capacity. Due to his valued experience and the difficulty of replacing him, he will stay for the duration.

Vincent D. Nicholson, REA general counsel since 1935, has been appointed deputy administrator. Robert B. Craig, appointed in 1939, continues as deputy. Former deputy Francis J. Sette is now with WPB.

CONSUMERS

6 a. m. in St. Paul

At 6 a. m. on Fridays during August housewives of St. Paul and Minneapolis rose and toured the wholesale markets at their peak hours. The occasions were Vitamins for Victory parties sponsored by the Minnesota Extension Service. Hosts were farm men and women who sell regularly on the two municipal markets of the Twin Cities.

The early morning meetings, which opened with the Star Spangled Banner and closed with a free souvenir bag of fresh vegetables from the farms, were the idea of Ralph V. Backstrom, Extension marketing specialist.

September 20, 1942

Harvest Thanksgiving

THIS SUMMER, Lester Williams, publisher of the Tylertown (Miss.) *Times*, had an idea. With his friend George W. Godwin, president of the Mississippi Press Association, he came to Washington to talk to the Secretary of Agriculture, who thought it was good. As a result, at Tylertown on October 3, at 12:30 p. m., Mr. Wickard will inaugurate observance of the Food-for-Freedom Thanksgiving Harvest, an appropriate climax to the successful 1942 Food-for-Freedom Program and a timely introduction to 1943 production goals.

The Tylertown ceremonies, although broadcast over the Farm and Home Hour, will be strictly a community affair, with a prayer by a local minister, a special edition of Mr. Williams' paper, and local farmers in attendance with basket lunches. Throughout the country other communities which had much the same idea as did the Tylertown people will hold day-long or week-long Food-for-Freedom Harvest observances, with churches, newspapers, and farmers cooperating—and USDA workers as they may be asked.

Informing information workers

USDA information workers from all agencies gathered at special meetings in September to study the main job ahead—the launching of 1943 production goals—and all the incidental information tasks, covering such needs as feeding more wheat to livestock, an even flow of hogs to market, preventing forest fires, conserving machinery, scrap collection, transportation, etc. Information workers will have the facts and figures to assist local communities which wish to join in observing the Food-for-Freedom Thanksgiving Harvest.

As part of a systematic effort to inform all USDA workers, Director of Information Salisbury and Assistant Director Wall are visiting



PHOTO BY U. S. ARMY SIGNAL CORPS

HE eats a ton a year: 2,485 pounds of food, compared with 1,406 for the average civilian. Farmers are thankful they can supply his needs, USDA workers, that they can help.

USDA clubs in leading cities. Information workers of various agencies will be available to talk to USDA clubs in smaller cities and towns. Arrangements are being made through the Division of Training, Office of Personnel.

The purpose: To enable all employees, all ranks, all bureaus, to know and tell others the essential facts about agriculture in the war. This is important on the consumer side—where we all have contacts—as well as on the farm front.

As a soldier sees the farmer

CORP. JOHN FRIANT, on his way by bus to Carthage, Mo., saw from the window "the funniest-looking contraption you ever did see." He wrote to his mother, Mrs. Julian Friant, Information Division, ACAA: "It was a stripped-down model-A Ford converted into a tractor. The rear wheels were large and heavy and the tires had heavy chains on them to get traction. Behind this improvised tractor was a hand-made and hand-designed plow . . . It took at least two men to control it even on the straightaway. But the outfit was getting the job done! The earth was being plowed under. . . . Never did I want to stop and express my admiration to anyone more than to those farmers. They weren't refusing to work wholeheartedly because they couldn't get a tractor, or a plow, or tires for their machinery. I'll just bet you they realized that the harder they worked under any odds the quicker we could get this mess over with."

Exhibits

A SET of USDA wax models of meat, showing the various cuts and grades, exact duplicates of the real things, are now being used at Walter Reed Hospital, where the Army Quartermasters are studying the buying of food for the Army.

SOME 60 USO recreation centers in Army camps and 60 other centers for war factory workers will soon display USDA Food for Freedom exhibits, at the request of the United Service Organization.

Food for Freedom

To save a thousand ships

One thousand cargo ships within the next 2 years is the estimated saving in ship cargo space to be provided by adoption of dehydration methods for lend-lease shipments. Dehydration is one of the oldest methods of food preservation. Through research by BACE and BAI, testing by BHE, and adaptation by AMA, it has been modernized for food purchased for lend-lease delivery.

So far, dehydration is being used for meat, vegetables, milk, and eggs. One pound of dehydrated meat weighs 4 or 5 pounds when fresh; the ratio is 1 to 10 for vegetables. One hundred pounds of liquid whole milk can be dried to only 12½ pounds of powder. A dozen shell eggs can be reduced to 5 ounces of the dried product. Shipping foods in dehydrated form also will save tons of tin.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT has authorized a CCC loan and purchase program for 1942 crop rice at 85 percent of parity, to aid marketing of the record crop required for military, lend-lease, and civilian needs. An AAA survey shows that Texas has a shortage of rice storage, and needs storage for about 3,960,000 bushels.

THERE ARE already State nutrition committees, 2,500 county committees, and community committees functioning throughout the country with ODHWS regional representatives. M. L. Wilson, Extension Director, has helped organize an industrial nutrition advisory service under the Office of Defense Health and Welfare Services and the Public Health Service.

Two and a half pounds

Prospects are that civilians must hold meat consumption at about the level of the late 1930's—about 2½ pounds a week per person. This is far in excess of meat consumption in other nations—the British ration is slightly over 1 pound; German, 12½ ounces; Dutch, 9 ounces; Belgian, 5 ounces; Italian, 3½ to 4½ ounces.

The Foods Requirements Committee, headed by the Secretary, on September 1 made three recommen-

dations for a national meat conservation program: (1) WPB to establish quotas for sales of meats by packers to civilian markets; (2) consumer rationing as the best method of assuring each civilian a fair share of the total supply; (3) until quotas and rationing are in effect, civilians to voluntarily conserve "red meats"—beef, veal, pork, lamb, and mutton—by eating more cheese, poultry, fish, and beans.

APPLES are scheduled twice as Victory Food Specials; fall apples, September 17 to 26, winter varieties, October 22 to 31. AMA is buying apples for the School Lunch Program in areas where growers face loss of export markets, transportation restrictions and other wartime difficulties. Cabbages, September 28–October 10.

Observation and conservation

IN GOTHA, Orange County, Fla., farm families combine observation and conservation. Two couples meet at the airplane observation post. The men gather tomatoes and beans while the women watch for and report planes. Then the men take over the observation post and the women can the vegetables.

PERISHABLE foods at the rate of 600 million pounds a year are being stored in freezer lockers for 1 million families, three-fourths of whom live on farms. An Extension survey showed 700 new food-locker plants established during the year ended last July, bringing the total to 4,323 plants in 46 States, reports K. F. Warner. All States report locker plants giving information on food and nutrition.

NEW MEXICO and west Texas Extension agents, FSA county supervisors, county commissioners, and farmers have obtained the use of county road machinery for digging trench silos.

A 10-WEEK poultry short course by air, first of its kind in Illinois, was conducted by H. H. Alp, Extension specialist. The course was taken by 738 farmers. The course was also given by mail in case a farmer missed a broadcast.

Two stones with one bird

WHEN Secretary Wickard last month asked the poultry industry to produce 200,000,000 extra chickens during the coming fall and winter months, he was reversing a proverb. With one bird he hoped to hit two stony problems. First problem is, of course, the meat shortage. The extra chickens for table use will help relieve the meat shortage without disturbing the Nation's record egg production needed for the war. Second problem is wheat storage. The 200,000,000 extra chickens will require more than a million tons of feed if they are marketed at an average weight of about 3 pounds, and wheat can be used to a large extent in poultry production.

Ample feed wheat, together with vegetable-oil meals, are on hand. Some of the feed wheat should be used as scratch grain rather than corn, which is less plentiful. Thus, every chicken scratching for rations will help to move considerable quantities of wheat from the overflowing granaries and convert it into good white-and-dark meat for the family table.

Speed is essential in getting the program started, so that the extra meat chickens will be produced during the "off" season and out of the way before poultrymen and farmers must concentrate on egg and poultry production needed in 1943.

manual, How Banks Can Assist in the Food for Freedom Program, prepared in cooperation with BAE and the New York State Extension Service. Also, more than 11,000 copies of M. P. 488, Financing Production of Food for Freedom, were requested by banks.

MAJ. R. R. WRIGHT, Sr., president emeritus of the National Negro Bankers Association, sent a circular letter, urging members to cooperate fully with farmers and 4-H Club members. He suggested especially that Negro bankers adopt a more definite policy for helping Negro farm youth.

NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK,
OCTOBER 4-10.

Management column

Ideas aplenty

AMA is the first Department agency to make a systematic effort to collect ideas from its employees. On August 17, AMA's Personnel Director Fred McMillen wrote to employees in Washington and field, promised consideration and acknowledgment of each suggestion, and promptly got results. At least one suggestion (see FARM LABOR) is of Department-wide interest. Some others:

R. D. Sherman, inspector, livestock branch, Chicago: *To improve mail service by using the "one-envelope plan" for inter-office mailings.*

C. G. McCulloch, inspector, Seattle: *That AMA inspectors of butter and cheese also help manufacturers of low-grade butter and cheese improve the quality of their products to meet war demands.*

Morton W. Siegel, procurement branch, Washington: *That "each employee in a division should at some time take over each desk and familiarize himself with the duties entailed." Sick leaves and vacations were suggested opportunities.*

William Lieberman, transportation audit section, Washington: *That the personnel office check classification sheets against educational background and experience more closely.*

Making credit fight

USDA's credit services to farmers have helped produce the amazing harvest of 1942. Production credit associations have been furnishing short-term loans for desirable shifts in production, for the early repair of farm machinery, and other war purposes, at the same time that they have encouraged their members to pay long-term debts and buy war bonds. Farm Credit reports its 530 pca's, doing a short-term cooperative credit business on a Nation-wide basis, during the first half of 1942 had an increase of 4.8 percent over the similar period of 1941. The amount loaned increased about 21 percent.

At the same time, Gov. A. G. Black of FCA reported that farmers are paying off their land-bank loans in advance and depositing "rainy-day" funds in large amounts—\$10,000,000 since September, 1941. Pay-offs on principal of land-bank loans last year amounted to about \$129,000,000, of which \$56,000,000 represented loans paid in full prior to maturity. In 1942 the tempo of pay-offs has stepped up.

FCA helps feed more wheat

Another branch of the FCA, the Banks for Cooperatives, has been financing cooperative plants which process FfF. Farmers' cooperatives served by the banks report farmers are buying cheap feed wheat in large

volume, as the Department advises. Cooperatives have bought 6,600,000 bushels and plan to buy 7,700,000 more to sell to their members at approximately 85 percent of the parity price of corn.

Production credit associations finance farmers who wish to purchase cheap feed wheat. Many pca's which sponsor Victory Pig Clubs advise their members to feed wheat to the victory pigs.

FSA helps half a million

Farm Security Administration, which finances the less fortunate families in agriculture, long since turned its program of rehabilitation—through loans and assistance in better farm and home management—to increasing production of the war crops. Half a million families who, lacking commercial credit, would otherwise have been unable to take part in the FfF drive, are producing now with FSA help.

Bankers rally round

Finally, more than 10,000 banks daily engaged in financing farm production are helping. Under leadership of the American Bankers Association, at 40 State meetings, bankers studied the 1942 production program and worked out ways to help. County bankers met with members of USDA War Boards and other farm leaders. The Association issued a

Ted McWhinney, clerk, livestock branch, Kansas City: *That instructions and information to field offices be issued through one set of memoranda, indexed according to subject and date; and only the material needed for its own operations be sent to each field office.*

Hugh W. Taylor, Washington: *That a calendar be set up for appointment and training of seasonal employees to avoid congestion and delay.*

Towards greater versatility

Writes Henry E. Hutcheson, county agent at Henrico Court House, Va.: "Forest rangers are mighty versatile people, as you pointed out in your August 5 issue. But the county agent . . . has more bulletins, circulars, and leaflets, more mimeographs, more visual aids on more subjects, and he makes more speeches on more topics than any other one man on earth. What's more, the farmer expects him to give him information on everything from apples to aphids, from forestry to feeding, from drainage to sociology, and from fertilizer to Food-for-Freedom. If he fills the bill, he is a superman. And very often he fills it."

EDWARD G. McCANTS, of Jeffersonville, Ga., nominates the rural rehabilitation supervisor of FSA as most versatile employee: "The County RR Supervisor must be a general supervisor in farming, soil conservation, construction of buildings, forestry; he must be a good salesman as well as purchaser; a legal advisor; a veterinarian; and a medical advisor—and in some remote cases a 'Granny'."

THE "COVERING MEMO," as an institution, is on its way out. In transmitting personnel, budget and finance, and other Department circulars to their personnel, several USDA bureaus now (unless there is some urgent reason for amplifying the contents) simply rubber-stamp the circular with the bureau name and the requisite procedure classification and shoot it along to headquarters and field staffs. Previously, each circular went with a transmittal memo or was re-written by the bureau.

Transportation

HAROLD L. OEHLERKING, FSA supervisor, reports that a red flag on a windmill in Furnas County, Nebr., means, "Stop here if you're on your way to town. We need supplies, too."

Washington cupidors have gone to war

WASHINGTON offices of USDA sent over 700 brass and aluminum cupidores to the Navy Yard for melting down. Likewise paperweights, old file cases, addressograph drawers, lathe bases, bandsaws, license plates, hand-trucks, axles of an exhibit trailer, brass markers of a sedimentation study, photostat spools, rubber-tired ashtrays, and typewriter spools and ribbon boxes by the thousands. This is the Department's greatest house-cleaning. To find scrap for munitions and usable articles for return to Procurement (this saves metal, too) 20 men labor all night from attic to basement, supervised by H. T. O'Neal and other Plant & Operations men on the night shift.

Plant and Operations is preparing a booklet of instructions for quicker

disposal of surplus property in offices and warehouses.

Certain types of "expendable materials"—not inventoried—can be given to the scrap drive without formality. A rubber chair cushion, for instance, needs only to be placed in the outgoing box with a tag marked "Motor Transport — Salvage" to be on its way toward becoming part of the war machine instead of a pad for the seat of authority. One Washington office turned in 800 pounds of rubber floor mats (useful in the war effort, contrary to rumors) which were serving little purpose.

CUPIDORS, wrote Arthur Thatcher to field offices, are definitely in the expendable category whether in use or in storage.

The public wants to know:

WHY SHOULD a farmer keep cats if he wishes to raise red clover? . . . Do coffee beans have two sexes, male and female? . . . What would be the outcome if one should plant a tomato and a potato together? . . . In what State do they make Swiss cheese? . . . Operator, I want to know how to raise babies. . . . I want literature on the duties of a housewife and how many miles she walks in her home in the course of a week. . . . Would anyone there be interested in a hen laying seven full-grown eggs? . . . How young should a weeping willow tree weep? . . . How will you catch a mouse that will not bite in an ordinary trap? . . . How old are new potatoes before they are considered old? . . . Will it be safe to send a fried chicken through the mail on an overnight trip? . . . I want to talk to someone who can tell me how to cook over the telephone. . . . When will the cotton be in bloom down South? . . . How much food should one give pigs to eat? . . . Operator, I want to know the Latin word for the four stomachs of a cow. . . . When did Russia dump her wheat on the American

market? . . . Why do fields run north and south in the Middle West? . . . What bureau in Agriculture would know about making bowling alleys?

Such are typical telephone inquiries compiled by J. L. Koehl, USDA's Communications Chief. In Washington and throughout the country, the public takes its troubles to Agriculture, perhaps because we come first under the "U. S. Government" heading in the phone book.

Information please

In coping with this daily torrent of inquiries, telephone operators do nobly. At the central information desk in Washington, operators have indexed under thumb-tabs all subjects of popular inquiry. Our field offices in many large cities are equipped with handy Department directories, prepared by the local USDA clubs. The operators do their part, but too many USDA offices to which calls are transferred seem willing and eager to pass the buck.

Often, of course, the call concerns some war activity or Federal agency

outside the Department. In this case, unless you know positively which office to call, refer the questioner to the nearest office of the Office of War Information. OWI's Bureau of Public Inquiries (formerly U. S. Information Service) will answer questions about Federal activities, but all USDA workers should feel responsible for seeing that questions about activities in our sphere get prompt, correct answers.

Sometimes the questions may be to settle bets. But the fried chicken may be on its way to a soldier, the facts about Russian wheat concern an ally, and certainly the pig will

get all he can eat, if Secretary Wickard's advice is followed.

Machinery

RATIONING of farm machinery, for which authority was delegated to Secretary Wickard last month by Price Administrator Henderson, will be handled by county rationing committees composed of the county AAA chairman and two representative farmers to be selected by the county war board.

Farm labor

CAN the Department of Agriculture increase the efficiency of farm labor? If so, we'll help solve one of the big problems of the war. Training experts in the Office of Personnel believe it can be done.

"There is nothing mysterious about efficiency analysis," they say. "It can be applied to a number of characteristic farm jobs, from cotton picking and vegetable tying to milking and chopping. Once its fundamentals are understood, farmers can do a great deal with it themselves . . . Whenever a simple movement can be substituted for a more complicated one, less fatigue and fewer mistakes will result. The help of experts should be sought, to discover what has been done in allied fields and to experiment with new material. They would prepare material showing how sound motion principles can be applied to farm tasks and evaluate suggestions and findings sent in by farmers throughout the Nation for exchange and criticism. . . ." (USDA employees' suggestions also are welcome.)

Corn shucking, for instance

"As a demonstration of what might be done in skill training, we can consider the annual job of corn shucking. Slow-motion pictures could be made of husking champions and they could explain why they use particular methods. Longer teaching films could be used by the coun-

ty agent, vocational teacher, rural rehabilitation supervisor, and others.

"In a Kansas community the farmers who had occasion to cut corn by hand always worked on the left side of the row and swung the knife forward. A farmer in an adjoining community showed some of them how to work on the right side and swing the knife backward. With this technique they could go around the shock row instead of walking back empty. The labor saved amounted to at least 50 percent."

However, warn the training men, the effort will fail if the primary object is just to get more work out of people without sharing with them the rewards.

AS PRELIMINARY to carrying out the new program of Government help in transporting farm labor where it is needed (USDA August 20) the Secretary appointed four Government officials to serve on a West Coast Agricultural Wage Board. It will determine wages for workers in California sugar-beet fields.

HUGH B. ROBINSON, AMA Distribution Branch, suggests that field and Washington employees of the Department officially organize and encourage employees to give their Saturday afternoons to work on farms.

IN FITZGERALD, Georgia, 30 members of the high-school football team have been getting in condition by helping harvest cotton and peanuts. The

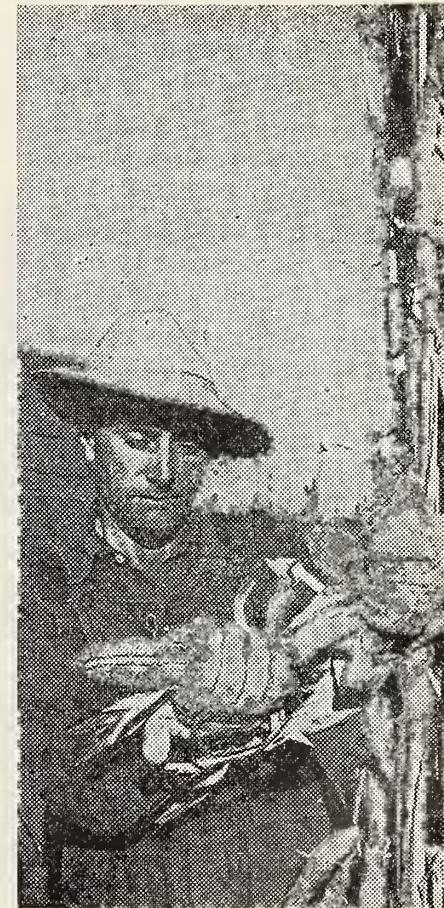
WHAC's—Women's Harvest Auxiliary Corps—also help.

IN NEW YORK STATE, 17,000 Extension "minutemen" are helping cut and saw enough fuel wood from farm woodlots for the coming winter.

MARION COUNTY, Oregon, school children helped care for and harvest much of the county's 3,100 acres of strawberries, 2,300 of cherries, 2,500 of small fruits, 1,800 of beans, 5,400 of prunes, 3,700 of walnuts, and 9,000 of hops.

MEN and women on the staff of the regional forester (C. N. Woods) at Ogden, Utah, spent their evenings and Sundays last month as volunteer workers in the sugar-beet fields, when local growers faced a crisis.

THE STAFF of the forest supervisor, Floyd W. Goddes, at Salmon, Idaho, took short periods whenever they could to help local ranchers get in the hay.



FOTHSTEIN FSA

CAN efficiency experts help farmers? Husking corn in Grundy County, Iowa.

Inventors

DURING the past fiscal year 55 patents obtained by USDA employees included an improvement in orchard heaters, a spray nozzle tip, a ladder, an insect repellent, an insect larval lure, and several insecticides; methods for the control of Japanese beetles and the granulation of fertilizers; processes for curing vanilla beans; for obtaining sugar from sorghum juices; and for the removal of metallic elements from water; a fermentation process for the production of 2-Ketogluconic acid; a stereoscopic plotter (a map-making machine); slotted templets for use in assembling air photographs; and something called "Thixotropic Composition of Matter."

Public service

Whether the layman can understand them or not, the patentable discoveries made by USDA workers are useful. Most are made in the course of official duties and the patents are therefore either dedicated to the public or assigned to the Secretary of Agriculture. In the latter case the Department may license the use of the invention by others but feels it desirable to retain some supervision over the manner in which it is used.

To nine of the patents issued during the year, the inventors kept title, allowing the Government "shop rights." As set forth in the Department regulations, USDA workers may earn royalties on inventions only when the invention is not made as part of their official duties.

In number of patents granted during the year, BACE led with 20 covering a wide range of subjects; BE&PQ was second with 16, chiefly insecticides; Forest Service men had 7, BPI 5, SCS 4, and the Solicitor's Office 2.

During the last fiscal year, the Department registered a trade-mark with the Patent Office, the first time registration of a trade-mark has been obtained by any Government agency. The trade-mark will be used, not by the Government, but by the farmers who participate in the National Poultry Improvement Plan as a distinguishing mark for their products.

TWENTY entomologists from BE&PQ are serving as officers in the Army Sanitary Corps. Their ranks range from Lieutenant Colonel to 1st Lieutenant.

Department people

Administrators

LOUIS L. NEEDLER, formerly chief of an OAWR Indianapolis office, directs the new AAA Division of War Board Services. James H. McCormick transfers from the Office of the Special War Board Assistant to the Secretary, to assist Mr. Needler.

HOWARD R. TOLLEY, BAE Chief, loaned to OPA for several months, is back full time. Hazel K. Stiebeling is now Assistant Chief of BHE, in charge of home-economics research.

LAWRENCE I. HEWES, Jr., FSA regional director, San Francisco, is helping Administrator C. B. Baldwin direct FSA's importation of Mexican farm workers as they are needed. (*USDA* August 20.) This season sugar-beet and long-staple cotton areas of California and Arizona get first consideration.

WALTER VAN BOKKELEN and Edward Brown will distribute agricultural supplies in the Caribbean for AMA.

Information

WHITNEY THARIN is now, like Keith Himebaugh and Duncan Wall, an Assistant Director of Information. W. Kamp Charles is Chief of Press. Peter H. DeVries is directing economic information for BAE. Russell Smith leaves for BEW.

Authors

H. H. BENNETT, Chief, and William C. Pryor, Division of Information, SCS, are authors of *This Land We Defend*, the story of America from the viewpoint of the soil, our basic resource. Other recent popular books by USDA workers: *Old McDonald Had a Farm*, by Angus H. McDonald, SCS; *As I See It—Observations of a Civil Servant*, by W. W. Stockberger, for many years director of personnel; *The Prime of Life*, by Gove Hambridge, well-known Department editor.

Reporters

For *USDA's* new format, thanks to Ted Jung, Consumers' Counsel. Bureau reporters for *USDA* are: Secretary's Office, Stanley P. Williams; ACAA, Virgil Hassler; Div. War Board Services, Vera Durham; Solicitor's Office, Henry Hilburn,

Jr.; Plant and Operations, Raymond J. Weir; AMA, Eloise English; OLUC, Carl Tjerandsen; FS, C. E. Randall; BAE, Catherine Carmody; FCA, Elizabeth Melvin; Library, Ethel Smith; Beltsville, William Hunt; AC&E, Guy Ervin; BAI, Ralph Erskine; CCC, Frank George; BDI, Leo Richardson; E&PQ, J. A. Hyslop; OES, Howard Knight; Ext., Clara Bailey; FSA, Jack Bryan; OFAR, Bob Ingram, now on leave with the U. S. Army; BHE, Emily Davis; OAWR, Harold Lewis, BPI, Margaret Heneghan; REA, Dixon Merritt.

Field reporters are being named likewise. But direct contributions are still welcome.

AMA is sending *USDA* to those of its employees in the armed forces who request it. The service is open to other agencies.

Foreign correspondent

After the last war

AFTER the last war, American farmers helped relieve Europe's hunger. It is not so generally known that the Department also helped European farmers get on their feet again. For example, on December 30, 1918, Dr. A. J. Pieters and W. A. Wheeler sailed for Europe to secure information concerning clover, grass, and vegetable seed stocks and requirements in the various European countries. Mrs. Ola Powell Malcolm took a group of canning experts to help the French Government popularize home canning among French families threatened with malnutrition.

American soldiers stationed in France after the armistice studied agriculture eagerly (and helped many a mademoiselle dig her garden). Pres. K. L. Butterfield, of Massachusetts Agricultural College, surrounded himself with an able Extension staff and sailed as a member of the Army's Educational Commission. Soon, in each American regiment stationed in France and Germany, an agricultural school, an institute, a short course, a farmers' club, special lectures or correspondence courses, were underway. The Department shipped over lantern slides and publications.

Typical of the eagerness which American farmers showed to help European farmers: West Virginia farmers pledged themselves, at their own expense, to provide funds so that two Serbian boys could study farming in the University of West Virginia.

In England, now

British farmers, besides constant black-outs and frequent enemy action, have much worse shortage of labor, machinery, and supplies than we are likely to have. Yet Britain has increased its plowed acreage by 50 percent from 1939, from 12,000,000 to 18,000,000 acres. And British goals for 1943 call for a further addition of 10 percent. All agricultural fairs and shows have been suspended in England for the duration by voluntary action.

It is against the law now to throw rice at English weddings. Food in wartime England may not be used for any other purpose except eating. No eggs for shampoo, no lemons or vinegar for hair rinses, or milk for bleaching.

Six times expectations

LAST winter a Department agency made a big miscalculation which is turning out in our favor.

When the Forest Service took over the guayule plantation of the Intercontinental Rubber Company at Salinas, Calif., it found in stock some 22,000 pounds of seed—all the seed of this rubber-bearing plant to be had in the world. According to previous records of the plantation, we expected to harvest another 20,000 to 30,000 pounds of seed this summer from mature shrubs already in the ground.

But Regional Forester E. W. Kelley reported, after the seeds were harvested, the astonishing total of 130,000 pounds. By using hundreds of laborers to pick the seeds carefully by hand, instead of the machine picking used by the company, and with good weather, we obtained at least six times as much seed as we had hoped. Result: President Roosevelt asked Congress for an additional appropriation to expand the planting of guayule accordingly.

Devil's contraption

"I WON'T have any of those contraptions of the Devil in the Department of Agriculture," Tama Jim Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture, told a subordinate one day 30 years ago (so recalls C. W. Warburton, Deputy Governor of FCA). That was that. But his subordinate, O. H. Benson, possessed ingenuity. Benson was helping with the great Extension adventure which first took the services of this Department directly into farm communities. He saw at once the educational possibilities of the crude and flickering films.

When a group of boys from "corn clubs"—forerunners of the 4-H clubs—arrived in Washington to be greeted by Secretary Wilson, Benson called his friend C. Francis Jenkins, pioneer movie inventor. Mr. Jenkins came down to a gathering of corn club lads at the old red brick Department building. If the Secretary noticed the photographer's outfit at all, he took it for a still camera. Next Benson arranged for a screen to be hung in a Department office and invited Tama Jim. After seeing himself in the movies, the Sec-

retary appointed Benson chairman of a committee on motion pictures.

Now part of information

So the Department, probably first in the Federal Government, began to make movies. This month USDA's motion-picture division, long located in the Extension Service, moves over into the Office of Information where, under supervision of Assistant Director of Information Wall, it will continue to produce movies for Extension and all other Department agencies—movies to help farmers.

It is a small outfit—24 souls in all, headed by Raymond Evans and C. A. Lindstrom. It has never had a studio, and a year ago the armed services took over its Washington laboratories. But they have experience Hollywood might envy. For example, the magnificent American milk production today is due partly to the Department movies made 25 years ago. Cattle ticks were ravaging herds in the South and Southwest, and the emaciated fever-stricken cows gave but little milk. Department field agents who



PHOTO BY DELANO, FSA.

SOME 34,000,000 people, mostly farmers, saw Department films last year. USDA State War Boards will supply employee groups upon request.

went out to build dipping vats and persuade farmers to use them met bitter opposition. Some farmers disliked the dipping vats to the point of threatening to dip the USDA workers instead of the cattle. Mr. Lindstrom recalls that one agent was killed. But after seeing the Government's movies, farmers who had run Department workers out of town invited them back.

A shoe-string budget

USDA's movie unit operates on a shoe-string budget. Sometimes a new film can be made entirely from the cuttings from previous productions, filed away but *not* forgotten. Farm families coached to act natural are the usual cast of characters. Where a film is made by a commercial company under contract, actors are more likely to be employed.

New USDA movies

Among Department films to be released shortly are "Live at Home" (a Motion Picture Service production stressing home food production), "Henry Brown, Farmer" (an AAA film on the contribution of the Negro farmer), "Home on the Range" (an AAA production on the range country in wartime), "Trees on the Warpath" (Forest Service), and "There's More Than Timber in Trees" (Forest Service).

"Out of the Frying Pan into the Firing Line," made by Walt Disney for WPB, is being shown in commercial theaters and may be available afterwards for rural and small town groups. "Wartime Farming in the Corn Belt," an SCS film, is now being distributed. The forthcoming Walt Disney color cartoon, "Food Will Win the War," an OWI film, designed primarily for showing abroad, may be available later for domestic distribution.

Your State war board will have a list of films available for showing in your State.

Hollywood rangers

"Forest Rangers," starring Paulette Goddard with Fred MacMurray as the ranger hero, will be released in October. Technical advice was given by Guerdon Ellis, supervisor of the Tahoe National Forest, Calif. "Forest Ranger" was screened largely in national forests in the Northwest. "For Whom the Bell Tolls" is being screened in the Stanislaus National Forest in California. "The Yearling" is being screened in the Ocala National Forest in Florida, the locale in which the story was laid.

Shearlings still needed

"IF WE CAN build up 65,000 airplanes a year and train pilots to fly them, we can certainly round up enough sheepskins somewhere to keep those pilots warm," said a trade paper last month. USDA workers in the sheep-range country started last winter on a campaign to get more shearlings, but as the air force grows, the demand grows, too. It takes 12 shearlings to outfit one aviator; it takes several aviators for each plane.

In 1942, 392,346 pounds of wool will be shorn in this country, the largest on record, estimates BAE. With the heavy fleeces likewise greatly in demand, the appeal to shear the lambs for the aviators must continue to be largely on a patriotic basis; sheepmen who really want Tokyo bombed again take notice.



PEARL WILSON and Ruth Flynn, AMA artists, paint the plaster models of oranges, tomatoes, and other fruits and vegetables used by graders and inspectors.

THE ASSOCIATION of American Railways has asked the Department's help in keeping livestock off the railroad tracks where they interfere with troop movements and war shipments and have already caused a number of delays. All employees having contact with livestock owners should call this matter to their attention.

CLIPPING hog bristles for use in making brushes may give farm boys and girls a chance to make some money this year. With the Chinese supply cut off by the war, hog bristles will be greatly in demand.

THE OFFICE of Information has set up a publications booth in the patio of the Administration Building, Washington. It furnishes free publications, and those for sale, to persons calling for them. The Distribution Section handles the mailing service.

MOBILE dental clinics are being operated in New Jersey, home demonstration agents cooperating with State dental authorities. New Jersey is one of the first States to attack rural dental problems in this way.

HOME DEMONSTRATION agents in California are training women to

feed fire fighters. The State has 2,000 groups of men and women organized to fight fires.

THREE Argentine chemists and chemical engineers are studying the industrial utilization of farm products in BACE: Carlos Clementino Zarate and Oscar Saturnino Mallea, University of Santa Fe, Argentina; and Enrique Duprat, University of Buenos Aires. A fourth, Jose Baillardo, also of Santa Fe, will join the group later.

WYMAN S. SMITH, FS, discovered and named a new American holly—Firecracker—with an everlasting crop of red berries. Common American holly fruits and drops its berries in 1 year; Firecracker holds its fruit for 2 years and produces a new crop at the same time.

IF ALL our wheat were made into flour, it would snow under a Nazi panzer army. Baked into pyramids placed a mile apart, it would stretch the length of the Suez Canal. Made into spaghetti, it would knit a sweater to fit the earth. (Food Will Win the War, Walt Disney film.)

ALL our eggs fried into one huge egg would cover the United States and Canada. Our fats and oils would make a fat lady big enough to black out Berlin, and heavier than 100 superreadnaughts. (Food Will Win the War, Walt Disney film.)

ALL our corn made into one ear would make a bridge from London to the Black Sea. Our soybeans, ground into flour, would fill Moscow's Red Square. Our vegetables, canned, would cover the Great Wall of China. Our potatoes would stack up twice as high as the Rock of Gibraltar. Our tomatoes would tower over the Matterhorn. (Food Will Win the War, Walt Disney film.)



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October 5, 1942

Foreign correspondent

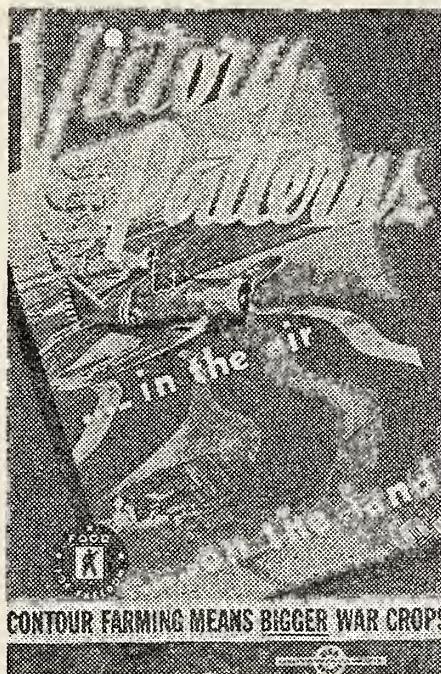
LT. William G. Malone, now in Ireland, writes to his former co-workers in the Louisiana State AAA office: "Fred Wallace's statement regarding the importance of food is certainly packed full of truth. One does not have to be a participant in the Bataan campaign to realize the truth of his statement. It is quite evident here in Ireland.

"We are not short of food insofar as actual hunger is concerned, but such things as eggs, fruits, butter, and vegetables are very hard to get and often you don't get them at all. When the quality of the food goes down, the spirit of the men takes a turn for the worse. One does not know how much enjoyment can be obtained from an orange and an apple until you have gone a while without them and turn up for breakfast and find either on the table.

"Do not get the wrong impression, for you all are taking very good care of us. When we compare the quality and quantity of our food with the civilians', we can realize how fortunate we are. Everything they get is rationed. Too, coupons have to be obtained before anything can be purchased . . .

"I wish you could see this country—not under the condition I am seeing it, but traveling as one obviously could at one time. It contains a wealth of interest for anyone interested in the science of agriculture. The country is beautiful. The grass is the greenest I have ever seen. All of Ireland is quite mountainous, yet the country has perfect sod, at least there are no washes or gullies due to erosion . . . Remember I am still an AAA man at heart and hope to be with you all when I return to the States."

ACRE for acre, war crops may be substituted for wheat in earning 1943 AAA payments.



Victory pattern

PROOF is now accumulating that conservation farming conserves fuel and machinery as well as soil. Adolph Habrich, a farmer who does custom combining near Pawnee City, Nebr., charges 25 cents per acre *less* for combining small grain on terraced and contoured fields than on others. He can save fuel and wear on his machinery, he says, when his outfit can run on the level. And the farmer not only gets increased yields from conservation practices, but he loses less wheat in the fields, for Mr. Habrich reports he gets a cleaner job of threshing on the level. With good reason, ACAA men call contour farming a Victory Pattern (see cut).

Scrap

THE ACADIA Parish (La.) reports that various communities are holding free barbecues, to which people are asked to bring all scrap materials they can find. The scrap is sold and the proceeds used to pay the barbecue expenses, the balance being given to the Red Cross. As much as 70 tons were

collected at a single neighborhood barbecue. Besides eating, there was singing and speech-making on Food for Freedom and other patriotic subjects . . . Without barbecue, Hitchcock County, Nebr., in the year ended August 1, shipped about 53 carloads of scrap iron from farms—equivalent to about 2 tons per farm . . . In New Hampshire, Extension neighborhood leaders made a house-to-house canvass of rural regions for scrap on behalf of the War Board . . .

Cattle grub takes 10 percent

DR. JOHN R. MOHLER, Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, reported last month that the United States is entirely free from 10 of the world's 15 major livestock maladies, that two others have been entirely eradicated, and that the remaining three are under effective control. Meanwhile, however, USDA workers got ready for a Nation-wide onslaught against a ruinous pest of cattle, the cattle grub.

Annually, the cattle grub takes a 10 percent toll on meats and leather; enough to make up the meat shortage for next year, if it could be eliminated. If all agents make a concerted effort to control the grub during the few months when they can be found on the backs of cattle, this meat and leather can be saved.

In Anderson County, Tex., County Agent D. R. Carpenter got the whole town aroused. First, Dr. E. W. Laake, Department entomologist, demonstrated control methods. Then community demonstrations were held for farmers, FSA supervisors, SCS technicians, vocational teachers, and others; 15 4-H Club teams were trained to scrub the backs of dairy and beef cattle wherever they could arrange a demonstration. "In spite of all we could do, some adults learned how to treat for cattle grub," said Mr. Carpenter. Last season they changed to the dry method of dusting derris powder or cube.

Target for tonight

EATING the right foods in the right amounts is a wartime duty. The routine job of buying supper, looked at in this way, becomes our "Target for Tonight."

Willing guinea pigs, USDA workers in Washington last month cooperated in a nutrition program intended as a pilot for similar programs in Washington and in Federal field offices. Director of Extension Dr. M. L. Wilson, who is also Assistant Director in charge of nutrition in the Office of Defense, Health, and Welfare Services, headed by Paul McNutt, had already started a program to improve the nutrition of industrial workers in the interest of war production. For the same reason, Dr. Wilson believes better nutrition of Federal workers is essential. USDA seemed a logical place to begin. If anyone can, Department employees should be able to grasp the basic ideas of good nutrition, practice them on themselves, and pass them on to friends and neighbors.

In the Department cafeterias, employees were given free copies of a popular vitamin game, which painlessly and even pleasantly teaches the essentials of a balanced diet. Employees also attended a series of lectures, by Miss Ernestine Becker, nutrition lecturer from Johns Hopkins University, and others.

Share the meat

AT THE convention of retail grocers in Chicago last month, Secretary Wickard explained the share-the-meat drive in which all USDA workers should lead in their communities. WPB has limited civilian meat supplies so that Army, Navy, and Allies will be sure to get enough. Upper and middle income Americans should deny themselves more than an average of 2½ pounds per week per person, so that those with less money and time to shop can obtain their share.

Victory Special

DOMESTIC tree nuts are the Victory Food Special November 9-21.

Management column

Lawyers set an example

DURING the summer, R. H. Shields and his aides reshaped the Department's legal staff into a reorganization so effective that it has aroused the interest of many nonlegal organizations. Under the reorganization, the number of divisions in Washington were reduced from 12 to 6, and the field offices were cut down from 43 to 12, with resulting saving in travel, time, and personnel.

But the chief advantage of the new plan is that it follows closely the functional pattern of the Department now taking shape. Previously, one law office handled only FSA business, another only FCA, etc. Several legal offices of the Department were sometimes located in the same city. Under the new set-up, the 12 regional law offices—at Philadelphia, Milwaukee, Montgomery, Raleigh, Dallas, Puerto Rico, Denver, Lincoln, San Francisco, Indianapolis, Portland (Oreg.), and Little Rock—will each handle all the legal business of various USDA agencies in these regions. Incidentally, this makes for fewer but more versatile lawyers. In the last year, the personnel of the Solicitor's Office dropped from 780 to 655, despite additional war work.

The reorganization plan was well designed and well expressed in Solicitor's Memorandum No. 16, dated July 20, 1942, and sent to all employees. A series of charts shows how the new line-up follows the functional grouping of Department agencies made December 13, 1941, by Secretary Wickard. The language is clear, brief, and to the point. Copies have been eagerly sought by other Federal agencies.

Wrote Director of Finance W. A. Jump to Solicitor Shields: "All too frequently good work in organization and administration goes unrecognized merely for the lack of good reporting. The effective documentary reporting of the change in the organization of the Solicitor's Office is an outstanding contribution in the field of governmental management and administration." It sets an example, he stated, for this type of improvement, and the reorganization plan is being

used, "as both a guide and an incentive," in other organizations.

Training classes for recruits

AMA, which needs more people to grade and inspect processed foods for the Army, Navy, and Lend-Lease (see *USDA*, September 5) has been out looking for them. The Processed Foods Division wrote the deans of State agricultural colleges, publicizing their requirements for assistant marketing aides.

From those attending the training classes, which were conducted by Assistant Marketing Specialists H. L. Slamp, L. S. Fenn, and C. H. Beasley, and John Dodds, Assistant Chief of the Division, AMA selected the new workers. Each class covered the background of the act (Public Law No. 159, 76th Cong.), as well as the process of inspecting and grading canned goods peculiar to the region where the class was held. Trained inspectors in the vicinity demonstrated the inspection and grading processes, and during the latter part of the course members of the class graded and inspected samples. On the last day, each trainee was given an examination upon which (as well as on the impression made upon the supervisor during an interview) his appointment depended.

Not Pullman farmers

IN 1941, only slightly more than 1 percent of the money spent by the Department was for travel. Of the total Department travel, 85 percent was in the field, mainly in the counties where essential meetings with farmers are held; 11.6 percent was for travel out of Washington; and 3.4 percent for travel from the field to Washington. In accordance with a provision of the Appropriation Act for this fiscal year, the Office of Budget and Finance has completed arrangements to return to the Treasury \$1,500,000 of the fund previously appropriated for travel. This reduction in funds, and the strict limitations on the use of automobiles, make it more necessary than ever for each employee to plan his trips carefully for maximum results with minimum mileage.

Pennsylvanians do it, anyway

An introduction for newcomers to the USDA

TIME and time again USDA workers have found that many farmers have already been practicing what the Department is just beginning to preach. For example, long before the rest of the country woke up to the danger of erosion, many Pennsylvania farms were terraced and strip-cropped against erosion.

And this summer when the Clearfield County, Pa., War Board called on farmers in a mountain community to draw up a plan for "transportation pools" to save tires, it turned out that the thrifty folk of the neighborhood had followed such a plan for 30 years.

According to J. Sherman Smith, chairman of the County War Board, and John R. Weaver, AAA committeeman, farmers in the ridge communities of Mahaffy and Harmony, meeting twice a month at the Grange, usually talk over their transportation plans for the next 2 weeks. A schedule is worked out, so that a few trucks or cars can do errands for everybody at the shopping centers of Punxsutawney and Clearfield, which are 18 and 35 miles distant. The neighborly custom, which is not limited to Grange members, started about 1910.

N. J. CLADAKIS, Federal Milk Market Administrator in the New York Metropolitan and Chicago areas, has a military leave of absence. Charles J. Blanford succeeds him in New York, and A. W. Colebank is new administrator of the Chicago order.

Farmers' almanac

CONFERENCE of collaborators, United States Regional Swine Breeding Laboratory, Ames, Iowa, October 8-9.

CONFERENCE of administrative leaders, AAA Southern Division, Lubbock, Tex., October 12-14.

ANNUAL Outlook Conference, Washington, D. C., October 19 (75 Extension economists to attend).

ANNUAL meeting of collaborators, United States Regional Salinity Laboratory, Riverside, California, October 19-21.

TOMORROW, before he has half had time to understand fully the set-up to which he is assigned, a newcomer may be called on for some new task in cooperation with another unit. Speed in finding one's way around the Department is important.

Also, the duties of the Department, written by Congress in 1862, include "the dissemination of information about agriculture in the widest sense of the word." That duty was never more important than now.

Here is the job ahead of us and this is how we go about it:

One great stockpile

In this war, the total food supply of the United Nations has to be regarded as one great stockpile, to be used as the common needs dictate. The first step in setting the marks for American farm production is to see what needs of the United Nations must be supplied by the United States. This survey is under way now by the Combined Food Board of the United States and the United Kingdom, on which Secretary Wickard represents the United States and Mr. R. H. Brand, of the British Food Mission, represents the United Kingdom. They will report their calculations on world needs for United States products to the WPB Foods Requirements Committee, of which Mr. Wickard serves as chairman. The WPB then reports to the Department the total needs for the various crops and livestock.

Your job begins

Preliminary work by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics has shown us how much of what can be produced where. The Department will then establish the goals for production in each farming line. The Department will also set up a schedule of aids in the form of AAA payments and Commodity Credit Corporation loans, and will support price levels by the Agricultural Marketing Administration's lend-lease purchases and buying through the Food Stamp Program, for school lunches, and for Red Cross use. These aids will be designed to help farmers make the needed switches among the various lines of

crop and livestock production. They also will give farmers the assurance needed for sustained high production.

The War Boards

The goals, the aids in the form of payments, loans, and support prices, will be reported to the State and County United States Department of Agriculture War Boards. The members of the War Boards are the head officers of Department agencies located in each State and county. They bring together into a close-knit team all of the Department workers. Farmer AAA committeemen, elected by their neighbors, will take to their neighbors the story of the goals for the county, and ask each man to carry his share by signing up a farm plan for 1943.

The long pull

Then will come the long slow pull of meeting the production schedule on 6 million farms. The wartime services of the Department of Agriculture back up the skill and the energy of the farm families. For financing, they may draw upon the facilities of the Farm Credit Administration if they have bankable security. The less fortunate farm families are financed by Farm Security Administration loans. For technical knowledge of how to produce the most per hour of work and per acre of land, all farmers draw on the Extension Services. They also get from the Extension system of 800,000 volunteer neighborhood leaders information on the whole farm program, and its relation to the war. For technical know-how in the conservation methods which increase production, and for some actual technical services, farmers in soil conservation districts call SCS technicians. Aid in putting electricity to work at the Food-for-Freedom job goes from the Rural Electrification Administration to more than a million members of REA co-ops.

New services

New services are being added as the need arises, administered through the War Boards, and oftentimes in cooperation with agencies of Government

outside the Department. Commodity Credit Corporation has made special arrangements to provide peanut pickers, seed peanuts, and seed soybeans of the correct varieties for the great expansion in these crops. CCC also has provided prefabricated grain bins for sale to farmers whose wheat otherwise would have had to lie on the ground. Arrangements for pooling of truck transportation are being made through the War Boards. The AAA program has made it possible to raise great quantities of winter-legume seed in the Pacific Northwest, and get it into the hands of farmers in the Southeast who need it desperately in order to make up for the shortage of nitrogenous fertilizers.

In addition to organizing and coordinating the services of the individual Department agencies, the War Boards perform many special wartime services for farmers. As agents of the WPB, they certify applications for building materials to put up farm structures. They organize salvage campaigns, and through local farmers will handle the rationing of machinery and materials. There are literally dozens of special jobs for the War Boards.

Problem No. 1

Adequate labor supply is the number one wartime problem of farmers. Farm Security Administration operates camps for migrant farm workers. We are now providing Government aid in transporting both domestic and Mexican workers into areas of critical shortage. This program will supplement the services of recruiting labor carried on jointly by the United States Employment Service and the war boards. Other Department workers bring townspeople and husky boys to the farms at critical seasons of peak labor load.

To market, to market

When the crops get ready for market, a great variety of marketing helps—market news service, grading, and standardization, and regulation of the public markets and practices of operators in the trades—are available from the Agricultural Marketing Administration. Beyond that, the AMA in wartime is providing help by establishing markets for new crops where there were none before. An example is the egg-marketing program in the Southeastern States, which has greatly expanded the egg production there by providing an assured commercial outlet.

From farm to mess-kit

The Department of Agriculture's services are called upon time after time along the road from the field to the mess hall or the dining room. The buying of food for lend-lease shipment to our Allies is the job of the AMA. A huge job it is, a business of some \$5,000,000 a day. It requires making arrangements for the establishment of new processing plants to turn out the kinds of food needed in wartime. It also involves grading and inspection on a vast scale. Inspection of meat products, more important than ever in wartime, is directed by the Bureau of Animal Industry.

The home front

Department of Agriculture services extend also to informing homemakers—the quartermasters of the home front—on what they should serve their families in order to fit the wartime necessities of the Nation. Also, the Bureau of Home Economics and the Extension Service inform homemakers on how to prepare the foods, on home preserving of home-grown foods, on conservation of household equipment made of scarce materials, in fact, on a thousand and one matters of wartime household management. In these lines of work we cooperate closely with the Office of Defense, Health, and Welfare Services, the Office of Price Administration, and the Office of Civilian Defense.

Protective services

Other war functions of the Department include the protection of natural resources and of the public health.

The Forest Service guards public forest lands, manages their lumber output and grazing capacity, and assists private forest owners to get needed production without waste. It cooperates with the military authorities on its lookout towers and in the laboratories where research is under way on wood products for the Army and Navy.

Regulatory work which guards public health and war production against diseases, parasites, and insect pests is conducted by the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine and by the Bureau of Animal Industry.

War research

Under the Agricultural Research Administration the scientific work of the Department has been integrated. For example, dehydration of foods to save ship space calls on the Bureaus

of Animal Industry, Dairy Industry, Home Economics, and Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering. Establishment of rubber-bearing plants in the Western Hemisphere draws upon the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, the Bureaus of Plant Industry and Entomology and Plant Quarantine, the Forest Service, and the Office of Experiment Stations (which coordinates the work of the State experiment stations and Federal research centers).

The staff offices of the Secretary, including Office of Agricultural War Relations (our link with the war agencies), Information, Plant and Operations, Budget and Finance, Land Use Coordination, the Library, and the Solicitor's Office, also reflect the changing nature of our work.

The USDA spirit

NOT the air raid wardens, not the Army, the Navy, not even the Marines, but the Department of Agriculture had the honor of combating the first enemy incendiary bomb to fall within the United States. On the morning of September 9, Howard Gardner, Forest Service lookout on Mount Emily, in the Siskiyou National Forest, Oregon, spotted and reported an unidentified plane. At 12:30 p. m. the same day he spotted and reported a fire which had been started by the Japanese bomb, and then went to the fire and helped a Forest Service crew put it out.

Meanwhile, in Washington, a new, young USDA stenographer said to the girl across the desk, "I just hate these old blackouts, don't you?"



USDA

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October 20, 1942

"We Must Get Them On Good Land"

A PROPOSAL which Secretary Wickard advanced this month (in a speech before the National Catholic Rural Life Conference at Peoria, Ill., October 5), while it was directed primarily toward solving the wartime manpower problem in agriculture, could also go far toward solving some long-range problems of the Nation. Should his proposal be adopted, USDA employees would take part in a new and important wartime enterprise.

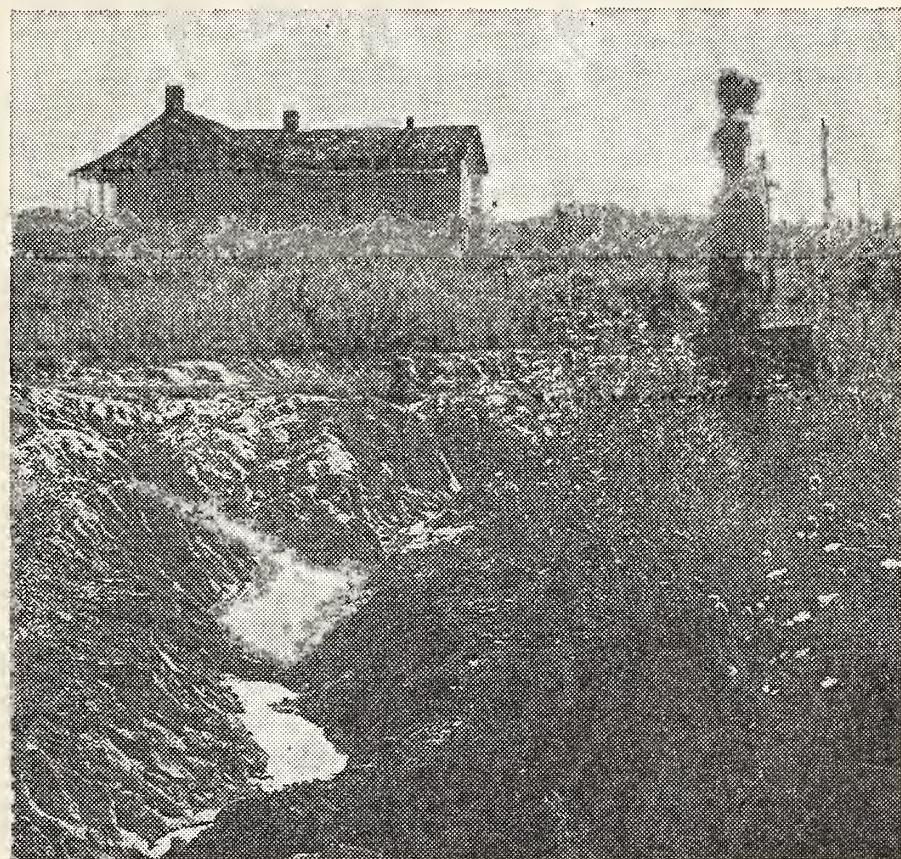
"We must not be misled by this year's huge farm production," Mr. Wickard warned. "Much of the work in preparing that production was done before Pearl Harbor. Even a few months ago, the Army was not nearly so large as it is now, nor was employment in war industries so high. . . . Already some farm families, unable to get labor, are offering their farms for sale, breaking up dairy and livestock herds."

Two million "underemployed"

Meanwhile, he pointed out, two million "underemployed" families are farming land so poor they can barely raise enough to eat, or working tracts so small they can't find enough work to keep them busy. The FSA program, which is helping about a fourth of them to increase production by loans and help in better farm-and-home management, has proved that many could manage good land if they had the chance. Under the Bankhead-Jones Tenant-Purchase Act, since 1937 some 30,000 such families have been helped to purchase better farms. But this number is a drop in the bucket compared to the present production need.

Now they have somewhere to go

In the past, the chief trouble has been that these people had no place else to go. One farmer, with hired help and rubber-tired machines, could work farm after farm without tenants. Now the war has suddenly reversed the picture. "Today there is danger that some large, rich, middle-western farms may lie idle next year through lack of someone to work



If farmers are to meet next year's production goals, they must say goodbye to acres such as these. There is room on the good land now.

them, while farm families in the Appalachians are living in poverty because they have not enough land to work," the Secretary stated bluntly.

He proposed direct action. "As a war emergency measure we must help those families get off crowded marginal land and onto good land as tenants, or, when possible through tenant-purchase, as owners." The cost would certainly be large, but maintaining farm production would be worth it.

After the war

Mr. Wickard warned that a farsighted view is necessary. "If we

treat the population shift merely as a temporary war measure, there will be grave reasons to fear for the future. Eventually, the people who were encouraged to move might be even worse off than they are now. We must resolve now to keep our industrial machine running at full blast when peace comes. If we succeed, there will be plenty of markets for full farm production here at home, as well as in the parts of the world prostrated by war. If we fail, the bottom will drop out of things, not only for the newly settled farm families, but for all other Americans as well."

Outlook Conference

IN APRIL 1923, as American farmers faced the new, shaken world which followed World War I, the late Secretary of Agriculture Henry C. Wallace (father of Vice President Wallace) summoned the Department's best brains from Washington and the field to a meeting. He asked them to draw up a picture of the expected supply-and-demand situation during the following year. Thus began the annual Outlook Conference, which meets this week in the Department auditorium at Washington, with more than a hundred Extension economists attending from all States and with workers from all agencies crowding in to hear the discussions.

Early conferences were held in great secrecy (like the present meetings of the Crop Reporting Board) because of their possible effect on the market situation. With the depression, came a belief that in addition to supplying farmers with crop and price information, outlook work should include the prospects for farm family living and look ahead at the broader aspects of agriculture. Chester C. Davis, former AAA Administrator, credits outlook reports with making a major contribution to the formulation of the first Agricultural Adjustment Act.

Main purpose of the outlook publications and conferences is still to determine what is ahead for agriculture, so that farm families can better plan their operations and this Department can better be prepared to aid them. Never was the need more urgent than now.

80 to 90 percent-right

The first Outlook Conference prepared the outlook for the coming year. Gradually, this prophetic function expanded into a year-round job for BAE, which now issues, besides the Agricultural Situation, periodical reports on the demand-and-price situation, farm income, feed, dairy, wheat, cotton, livestock and wool, poultry and eggs, fats and oils, fruits and vegetables, tobacco, sugar, and rice.

The present custom is to use one issue each of these reports (usually during the fall) for an annual forecast. The November issue of the Agricultural Situation contains a

summary of the whole outlook for 1943.

Studies made by O. V. Wells and W. H. Youngman of the outlook forecasts over many years show that, on the whole, the forecasts are correct 80 to 90 percent of the time—which compares favorably with the batting averages of weather observers, financial wizards, military experts, sports columnists, and other soothsayers.

1943 outlook

After Howard R. Tolley, BAE chief, opened the 1942 meeting, discussions were scheduled on the 1943 outlook for demand, price, and income; on next year's food situation from a nutritional standpoint; on marketing; on inflation, price control, and rationing, and, of course, on parity; on farm family spending and saving problems in the light of increased farm income; on farm labor, production materials, marketing and transportation adjustments; and on agriculture's involvement in general arrangements after the war.

Speakers included Under Secretary Appleby; O. C. Stine, O. V. Wells, Ray C. Smith, F. L. Thoméen, F. F. Elliott, BAE; Hazel K. Stiebeling, Helen R. Jeter, BHE; F. V. Waugh, AMA; H. H. Parisius, Sherman E. Johnson, David Meeker, OAWR. From outside the Department came R. V. Gilbert, A. C. Hoffman, Harold B. Rowe, and Ruth W. Ayers, of OPA; W. I. Myers, of Cornell; and John D. Black, of Harvard. Secretary Wickard and Dr. Wayne Morse, of the War Labor Board, were dinner speakers.

The new law

SAM BLEDSOE, Assistant to the Secretary (who was absent at Tylertown, Miss.) represented the Department at a notable meeting of officials and congressional leaders in Mr. Roosevelt's office on Friday, October 2. The occasion was the signing by the President of the second Price Control Act of 1942, or the "anti-inflation" bill. The new act directs the President, by November 1, 1942, to stabilize prices, wages, and salaries by a general Executive order. Guideposts set up by the Congress, however, forbid

establishment of farm price ceilings below a level that would reflect parity prices to farmers, or below highest farm prices paid producers between last January 1 and September 15. The act allows the President to adjust ceilings "to correct gross inequities" and instructs him to give "adequate weighing" to increases in farm-labor costs since January 1, 1941, in setting maximum farm prices. As director of economic stabilization, the President appointed Supreme Court Justice James F. Byrnes, of South Carolina. Mr. Byrnes resigned promptly from the Court to begin his new duties; promised "an all-out war against any further increases in the cost of living of the American people."

Help wanted

THE DEPARTMENT today has more jobs open than ever before in its history. To apply, ask for Form 57, obtainable from any USDA regional office or the Civil Service Commission, and mail it to the Employment Division, Office of Personnel, USDA, Washington. While space does not permit printing the list in full, of the jobs open in September, these are typical:

Assistant messenger, \$1,200 Washington, Kansas City, St. Louis, and other points; operators (mimeograph, comptometer, calculating machine), \$1,260, \$1,440, Washington, Indianapolis, Madison, and other points; stenographers, \$1,440, \$1,620, Washington and other points; typists, \$1,260, \$1,440, \$1,620, Washington, Minneapolis, Philadelphia, Birmingham, and other points; clerks, \$1,260, \$1,440, \$1,620, Washington, Minneapolis, Philadelphia, Boston, Buffalo, Baltimore, Pittsburgh, and other points; \$2,000, junior grain inspector, Washington, junior chemist, New Orleans, junior veterinarian, field, junior soil surveyor, all regions, junior soil conservationist, southeastern, western Gulf, and upper Mississippi regions, junior range conservationist, western Gulf region, junior agricultural engineer, western Gulf and southern Great Plains regions; \$2,600, assistant soil conservationist, southeastern region; \$3,200, associate soil conservationist, southeastern region; \$1,620, assistant lay inspector (examining carcasses for disease, supervising sanitation), field; \$2,600, junior accountant, field.

Lend-lease at home

HITLER continues to advise that the United States should devote itself entirely to its home problems, leaving the rest of the world to him. As soon as he has finished with the other countries, he will come over and help us, too.

But to an extent that the enemy would find surprising, the United States is making progress on both fronts at the same time. For example, at the same time that we are moving unheard-of quantities of food to our armed forces in this country and overseas and to our Allies, the Department of Agriculture is continuing and expanding the free School Lunch Program started in 1935.

This year schools all over the country are slated to receive evaporated milk, fresh and dried fruits, wheat cereal, wheat flour, and dry edible beans from the Agricultural Marketing Administration. There will be plentiful supplies of all these. It seems reasonably certain that there will also be milk and cheese for the school lunches; potatoes, eggs, and processed fruits and vegetables for Nation-wide distribution. As the AMA does the buying for lend-lease shipments, some foods that can't be shipped abroad immediately may be rerouted to school lunchrooms. All AMA commodities are donated to any lunch programs serving children who are unable to pay the cost of their meals, or who would benefit nutritionally from the lunches.

Who starts the program?

The Department of Agriculture supplies the food, but local people must set up and run the program in each community. In one town, the Boilermakers Union provides free lunches at one school and the Junior League at another. Food not supplied by AMA is contributed by parents who grow it on the farm, bought with cash donations, or grown in the school garden. Men and boys give their services to equip a kitchen and lunchroom, if the school lacks one. Necessary expenses are raised by pie suppers and bazaars, or county taxes. In one easy-going western town the proceeds from a slot-machine concession pay the school lunch bill. Sometimes cooks and kitchen help are employed. In country schools, however, mothers are more likely to take turns with the

cooking and in many a two-room schoolhouse the teacher does it herself with the children's help.

No school lunchroom receiving AMA foods may be run for profit, but if children can afford to pay for their meals, they do. The cost ranges from 3 to 12 cents, with the average at 6 cents. No distinction is made, of course, between paying customers and others. Often not even the children themselves know who pays and who doesn't. The School Lunch Program is as democratic as the public-school system itself.

The chief stumbling block to better American nutrition is a lack of proper eating habits, rather than any lack of food. Mothers gratefully report that better eating habits formed at school carry over into the home. In eating, as in everything else, children want to do as their playmates do, even if it means cultivating a taste for spinach or dried prunes.

Last year, 6,200,000 children in 93,000 schools were fed. This year AMA officials expect to enlarge the program. School lunches started in England in 1849.

Dora Johnson's idea

But Dora Johnson, a Negro school teacher in Jefferson County, Ga., anticipated the Department's School Lunch Program 17 years ago, when she planted a school garden to grow vegetables enough for more than a hundred undernourished children. Hot lunches were provided; accurate weight charts showing the children's development and records of daily menus were kept throughout the 17 years. When USDA began its community School Lunch Program, surprised officials declared her program had been qualified long before a Federal one existed.

THE BUREAU of Home Economics, in a new set of five picture-and-word posters, shows how to care for precious rubber articles so they'll last longer. The set, *Make Your Rubber Last*, is 10 cents. BHE also prepared two sets of food posters—*Fight Food Waste in the Home*; *Get the Good from Your Food*. Each food set (10 posters) is 25 cents. Obtainable from Superintendent of Documents, Washington.

Department people

WALTER C. LOWDERMILK, assistant chief of SCS, and Theodore P. Dykstra, BPI plant pathologist, are off to China for a year. Dr. Lowdermilk will assist the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry to set up an agency somewhat like our own SCS. Dr. Dykstra will work on problems of increased food production, especially corn and potato breeding.

DAVID DIGGS, for 12 years elevator operator in the Administration Building, dreamed the other night "that the Hitler was dead." Not content with dreaming, Mr. Diggs dug out nine old bedsprings and three iron stoves from his home and sent them to the scrap pile.

WILLIAM D. TERMOHLEN and William C. Welden are assistant chiefs of the Dairy and Poultry Branch, AMA. Dairy and Poultry will operate under five divisions, with chiefs as follows: Inspection and Grading, Roy C. Potts; Market News, Leon M. Davis; Poultry Products, Mr. Termhollen, chief, Joseph W. Kinghorne, assistant; Marketing Agreements, Mr. Welden, chief, Paul L. Miller, assistant; Dairy Products Division, Tom C. Stitts, chief, Harlan J. Emery, assistant.

DURING September, 150 USDA people in Washington donated blood to the Army-Navy Blood Bank at the Naval Hospital, making a total of 626 USDA donors. Miss McFadden, head nurse, says many more are needed.

YIELDS of sugar from sorgo, comparable to those from sugarcane, are now possible for the first time through a patented process developed by Emil K. Ventre and Howard S. Paine, BACE, for making sugar from sorgo juices. The patent has been assigned to the Secretary of Agriculture.

JESSE O. REED, BACE, has invented a patented process for producing clean, brilliant rosin, unusually free from impurities. The patent is assigned to the Secretary of Agriculture.

E. HJALMAR BJORNSON, AMA, returned after a year in Iceland, told Department employees last month that the United States is buying almost all of that country's fish for lend-lease, and in return is sending Iceland many manufactured articles, including skates. But last winter the lake in Reykjavik, capital of Iceland, did not freeze.

EMERY JACOBS has taken over the duties of Assistant to the Secretary formerly performed by Assistant Sam Bledsoe, who continues as director of the Office of Agricultural War Relations and vice chairman of the Foods Requirements Committee.

A LADY voice of agriculture is now heard daily over the National Farm and Home Hour. Ruth Van Deman, in charge of BHE information, reports to homemakers as part of each program.

AS AN extra-curricular "labor of love," news letters will be sent to former employees now in military service by individual units of the Forest Service—regional offices, experiment stations, etc. FS believes a letter from his own unit, with news about familiar persons and surroundings, will mean more to a person than a general letter about the whole organization.

On the night shift

HERE IS something which USDA workers in almost any State could do. Officials of a California cannery, engaged in processing war crops, appealed to the USDA State War Board for help in finding labor to keep going. Thirty members of the East Bay USDA Club, full-time employees of Department offices in Berkeley and Albany, responded.

One night a week, each man shucks off his business suit, dons overalls, and goes to work on the 7 to 11 p. m. shift. The USDA workers, who are employed in the shipping department and in crating, packaging, and loading canned goods, work by day in State offices of AAA, FCA, BAE, a Forest Service experiment station, and a BACE regional research laboratory. They will keep working one night a week during the canning season which ends in mid-November. Women can't help because a State law prohibits women from lifting weights of more than 40 pounds;

however, the USDA Club girls are looking around for equally useful work to do.

"Don't animals have livers any more?"

MRS. CARRIE N. HERRING, Winston County, Miss., home-demonstration agent, thinks perhaps she talked herself out of liver for demonstrations. For the past two years, in the Shiloh community, a Negro family has helped slaughter hogs for the white families, getting as payment the livers and other organs.

The Negroes seldom have colds or flu, and Mrs. Herring believes her recommendation of liver, with its high vitamin A content, helped to prevent them. But when she was unable to get liver in the local market for demonstrations, the grocer told her: "People used to bring liver with every animal * * *. Now animals don't seem to have livers any more."

Shocking parties

WHEN Walworth County (Wis.) farmers were unable to get grain shockers this summer, County Agent James Beattie invited Elkhorn businessmen to a "grain-shocking party." The first evening, the men cleaned up a 15-acre field of barley. Before the season ended, 205 "city farmers"—merchants, dentists, doctors, judges—had signed up to help.

A FOOD-PRESERVATION trailer, parked on Main Street in important centers of Suffolk County, N. Y., recently, gave information on food-preservation methods to passers-by. An idea of the home-demonstration agent and 4-H Clubs, the trailer exhibit was visited by about 500 people a week.

Ask the Library

ANY USDA worker of any rank in Washington or the field can call on the Department Library for help in his work or to fit himself for a better position. Regional branch libraries provide field workers, in person or by mail, with the use of the Department's half million books and magazines.

But Librarian Ralph Shaw does more than send out books. Washington workers in a hurry for any known fact can get it quickly by

calling the reference desk. The same service (not, of course, to be abused by personal queries) is open to field workers by mail. If you are interested in some particular field, tell the Library, and new items in this field will be called to your attention. If you need a periodical strictly for official use, it will be rerouted over your desk. Timely bibliographies, including one on farm-labor problems, are constantly being compiled.

The regional branches

Each Department regional library is in charge of a librarian who knows how to bring the resources of the main library at Washington to bear on your own problems. And behind the Department Library stands the Library of Congress and all the vast network of American library service. There's just not much excuse for any USDA worker to feel cut off from the flow of current knowledge in his field. The regional library at Lincoln, Nebr., has reached almost 3,000 USDA workers in the eight States it serves. In fact, the field libraries now circulate more books than the Department Library at Washington. The branches and their chiefs are:

Beltsville, Md., Katherine Forsyth; Upper Darby, Pa., Sarah W. Parker; Lincoln, Nebr., Howard B. Turner; Milwaukee, Wis., Frances L. Beckwith; Atlanta, Ga., Rachel P. Lane; Portland, Oreg., Marie Louise Gould; San Francisco, Calif., Signe Ruh Ottersen; Fort Worth, Tex., Helen Boyd; Albuquerque, N. Mex., Velma D. Reaves.



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November 5, 1942

This is our election day

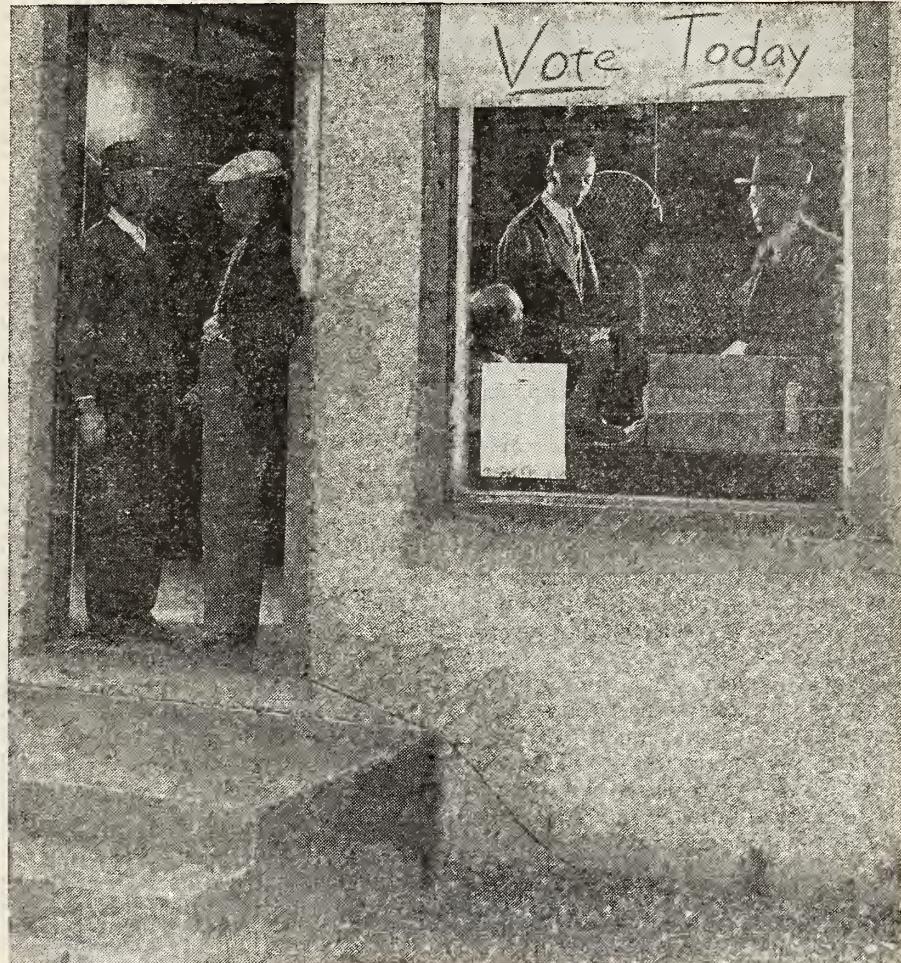
LONG before November, thousands of United States farmers held elections. No, they weren't jumping the gun—just voting as usual. Farmers of the East Central and North Central regions of AAA were electing their committeemen. (Northeast, southern, and western AAA farmers will vote later.)

Every year, cooperators in the AAA Farm Program hold similar elections without campaign oratory, rallies, or bandwagons. This voting goes unnoticed by many city people. But the farmers are on their toes. They realize that community AAA committees, composed of three farmers, bear the responsibility of explaining the program as it applies to individual farms. They realize that a county committee must distribute average allotments equitably among farms, approve soil-building practices for which farmers earn payments, and in general adapt the national program to local conditions.

This year, farmers know the necessity of handling their ballots with special care. It is necessary to elect farmers with perspective and adaptability, if agriculture is to keep step with the mounting pace of war. Besides routine matters, many unusual problems concerning labor, transportation, marketing, and rationing must be handled expeditiously and effectively. County AAA chairmen serve as county USDA War Board chairmen.

87,700 committeemen

Before the first of the year, approximately 87,700 community committeemen will be elected in the Nation. They will work an average of 18 days a year, with pay averaging \$4.00 a day. Delegates elected from all communities in a county choose three farmers to serve as the county AAA committee. There will be approximately 9,000 county committeemen



AAA PHOTO BY HARMON

CONGRESS established our *AAA* program. *AAA* committeemen are chosen annually by their neighbors in such voting places as this. In Germany, an "Ortsbauernführer" appointed by the Nazi party takes orders to each farm.

elected. They will perform *AAA* duties on an average of 96 days per year, at an average salary of \$4.50 a day. County agricultural agents serve either as secretaries or ex-officio members of county committees.

Linking the work of all county associations in each State are State

agricultural-conservation committees appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture. In Washington, the administration of the *AAA* program is handled by five regional directors and their staffs, working closely with their national chief, Fred S. Wallace, who became familiar with *AAA*

machinery through first-hand experience as he climbed from county AAA chairman to State chairman in Nebraska.

Thus, when war clouds began to spread quickly over the world, and Secretary Wickard first issued an urgent call for increased production, an experienced group of democratically named farmers was ready to act.

"A balanced agriculture"

Many committeemen already had piled up experience as officials. Thousands of men—and women, too—had learned the ropes by handling agricultural problems of their respective areas. Since the beginning of AAA, farmers running their own programs had been coping with the job of adjusting agricultural production to demand. Their slogan has always been "a balanced agriculture." They were in a position to push the production asked by Secretary Wickard. This winter, as they did last year, committeemen will visit each American farm, explain the 1943 national production goals, and help each farmer work out a goal for his farm.

And some women, too? Emphatically, yes. Women perform excellent service on AAA committees. Mrs. Emma Yearian, for example, operates a good-sized sheep outfit in Idaho's Salmon River country. She was first elected to the Lemhi County committee in 1936, and her neighbors have been so satisfied with her record that they have reelected her every year since.

Every county in the United States—well, except the Bronx and a few others with too much steel and concrete per square foot—will have a newly elected or reelection AAA committee before January 1, 1943. Some of the members may not be very well known, because farmers carry on their elections as they do their Battle of Food—with a minimum of ballyhoo and fanfare. They don't want orators, they want someone to get the work done.

DIRECTORIES of wartime agencies are available for farmers and neighborhood committeemen in Vermont and Delaware, reports Walter C. McKain, Jr., BAE Division of Farm Population. The directories have telephone numbers and addresses of farm organizations, USDA agencies, rationing boards, Selective Service and Employment Service, fire department, police station, air-raid warden, etc.

Department people

Stabilization Board

Secretary Wickard is a member of the Economic Stabilization Board appointed to work with Director Byrnes of the Office of Economic Stabilization. Besides Mr. Wickard, the board consists of the Secretaries of the Treasury, Commerce, and Labor, Federal Reserve Board Chairman, Budget Director, Price Administrator, National War Labor Board Chairman, and representatives of agriculture, labor, and management. Agriculture is represented by Edward A. O'Neal, president, American Farm Bureau Federation, and James G. Patton, president, Farmers' Cooperative Union.

THE List of Available Publications of the USDA (M. P. 60) has appeared in wartime dress. Publications especially useful in the war are marked as "vital" and "most inclusive." Convenient tabs classify the publications by subjects, and space is provided for notes under each subject. The list is obtainable, free, from the Office of Information, USDA, Washington.

Peat moss

The Government's only peat-moss specialist, Dr. A. P. Dachnowski-Stokes, of BPI, retired last month after 28 years of service, but, because of the importance of peat moss in the war, will continue work with the Department as a collaborator.

FRANK W. PARKER is new head of BPI Division of Soil and Fertilizer Investigations, succeeding R. M. Salter, now Chief of BPI. Dr. Parker has helped work out standardization of fertilizer grades, in cooperation with OPA and WPB.

Cheese men

A job of utmost importance is being done by Homer F. Walter, H. L. Wilson, and H. R. Lochry, dairy-manufacturing specialists in BDI, who are helping plants all over the country increase their production of U. S. No. 1 grade cheese—the only grade which can be purchased for lend-lease. Starting late in February, one of these men helped Minnesota factories increase their

combined output of U. S. No. 1 by more than 1,000,000 pounds. They have had equally good results with factories in Ohio, Tennessee, and other sections. But they are not invited by the cheese plants in Oregon and Washington—because factories in these States have followed BDI methods for the past three years, and none of their cheese has been rejected for lend-lease purchase.

Pioneer soil-saver

"Nothing but appropriate legislation by Congress and State legislatures can save the farming lands of this continent from being made poorer than the poorest old field in any State at the present time. * * * As we educate the children who are to bear rule five and perhaps fifty years hence, so they will act either to improve or desolate the farming lands of the republic." So wrote Daniel Lee, M. D., some ninety-odd years before the passage of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933. Dr. Lee, whose work as a pioneer soil-saver has been rediscovered by T. Swann Harding, Office of Information, was in charge of the distribution of seeds, the writing of agricultural reports, and the collection and publication of agricultural statistics in the Patent Office in 1849. His salary was \$1,500 a year, and he was the sole agricultural official in the United States Government at that time.

230 pounds

Al Gratton, 230-pound Forest Service road-construction man in Montana, got orders to check on a reported fire near Blackhead lookout. From the lookout station he spotted the fire about five miles away, and hit out cross-country. On arrival Al found he had grabbed a smoke-chaser pack minus any food rations. Nevertheless, he stuck it out two and a half days, and put out the five fires.

When he got back to his car, he found he had lost his car keys, and, his bed roll being locked inside the car, he spent a third night without bed or food. Next morning he managed to start his car and head back for camp.

Quinine needed

The country needs quinine badly. At the request of the Board of Economic Warfare, three Forest Service men experienced in tropical forestry will survey the cinchona-tree bark available in Colombia and make plans for getting it out. They are L. R. Holdridge, of the Tropical Forest Experiment Station, Puerto Rico; Donald Winters, assistant supervisor of the Shawnee National Forest, Ill.; and W. R. Silcock, of the Caribbean National Forest, Puerto Rico. Eugene Reichard, of the Atlanta office, has already been loaned to BEW for similar work in Guatemala.

E. H. McGuire is market administrator of the new Federal milk marketing order in the Memphis, Tenn., area. Since May 1941, he had been administrator of the Duluth-Superior (Minn.-Wis.) order.



DR. W. C. Lowdermilk of SCS, who has studied erosion around the world, in Bedouin dress. Now he helps China guard her soil.

EIGHT members of the Ministers Association of Missoula, Mont., volunteered as fire fighters to aid the Forest Service. They underwent their baptism of fire in a blaze which broke out in the Lolo National Forest, reports Axel Lindl, FS regional fire chief.

AAA's "Good Neighbor" folder, The Americas—Lands of Promise, has been revised. A large outline map of the Americas indicates each republic's farm production.

Ten percent more pigs

SECRETARY WICKARD has called on the Nation's hog farmers to plan for a 10 percent increase in their spring farrowings, and also to market their hogs 10 pounds heavier than they are this year. In announcing this first major food-production goal for 1943, over the Farm and Home Hour, Mr. Wickard, who is a hog farmer himself, said: "I can almost hear some of you sigh when I say that." Many hog farmers just won't be able to increase production, he acknowledged. Some could only do so at the expense of their dairy production, which is at least as vital. But there are many, he said, who can increase hog production, and also "thousands of farmers who are not raising hogs now could start in a small way at least. * * * I have seen many unused hog houses in the Dakotas, Nebraska, and Kansas, where corn yields were particularly good this year."

Feed supplies, of both wheat and corn, are ample. The feed wheat program is operating in every State. Our bumper corn crop is added to a carryover of half a million bushels. Canada likewise has hundreds of millions of bushels of grain we can have for feed if we need it.

The increased farrowings called for will result in an estimated 1943 slaughter of pork amounting to 13.4 billion pounds dressed weight, compared with slightly more than 11 billion pounds of slaughter this year—itself a record production.

Military needs come first

The civilian demand for pork and lard is greater now than farmers can meet and likely to become greater still, as there may be less dairy products and less beef available next year than now. But this reason, while important, is really the least of the reasons for urging farmers to raise more pigs. The American and Allied military requirements for pork amount to a billion more pounds for 1943 than for 1942. This need comes first.

True, as Mr. Wickard says, much of the pork from next spring's pigs won't be consumed until 1944, and no one can tell what the situation will be then. "But it is difficult for me to think of any reasons for its being

less," he said. "On the contrary, I can see many reasons why it may be larger. For one thing, we may have new Allies to feed then. Nothing would please us more than to have the opportunity of feeding those hungry people who have thrown off the Nazi yoke."

A solemn, almost an awe-inspiring business, this routine chore of carrying the heavy slop-buckets—sometimes with straining arms unused to such labor—to the extra porker squealing in the pen.

Winter-vegetable goals

On a national scale, the 1943 acreage of winter vegetables will be about the same as the acreage of 1942, according to goals announced October 14. However, emphasis has been put on the value of the various vegetables in the wartime food program, with goals calling for increases ranging from 15 to 30 percent on carrots, lima beans, snap beans, and onions, and with the acreage of green peas, cabbage, fresh tomatoes, beets, and spinach at about the 1942 levels.

Share the meat

ALL USDA workers have a particular obligation in the share-the-meat program. We can explain to our friends and neighbors that the farmers are doing their part. Total meat supply this year is enormous—24 billion pounds, which is 15 percent more than last year, and last year's production broke all records. Army, Navy, and Allies need $6\frac{1}{2}$ billion pounds. That leaves $17\frac{1}{2}$ billion pounds for civilians, or a normal supply. In fact, as Secretary Wickard has pointed out, "Our *normal* supply is smaller than the *abnormal* demand."

Hence the national program to limit consumption to $2\frac{1}{2}$ pounds per week per person, so that those with less money and less time to shop will not be deprived of their fair share.

USDA workers should also set a good example. How to limit your consumption to $2\frac{1}{2}$ pounds is an individual matter. A handy way would be to have no more than ten meals with meat per week, using the average of a quarter of a pound per person per meal. Fish, poultry, and a variety of meats such as liver, tongue, sweetbreads, and kidneys are not included in the share-the-meat campaign. BHE is preparing a folder, Ninety-nine Ways to Share the Meat, for wide distribution.

Farm people will share the meat, too, holding down their consumption to 2½ pounds per week per person. (Unless, of course, home-grown meat on hand would be spoiled or wasted if not eaten.) Home storage of cured meat, or storing meat in refrigerated food lockers, is still desirable and will be encouraged by USDA workers. The rule is simply to use the stored meat at the "sharing" rate.

Transportation

COUNTY AGENT W. Gordon Loveless reports that folks in Washington County, Vt., recently held a combined field day, annual meeting of their farm organization, and exhibit day, bringing together three annual events in order to save rubber, gasoline, and time. Good organization all down the line made it possible (700 people were served barbecued lamb in 30 minutes, speeches were short). * * * Transportation surveys and organization of local transportation committees are moving fast in many States now. After a study of Vermont milk-plant routes, J. A. Hitchcock, of the State Experiment Station, reported that mileage could be cut in half if rerouting recommendations were followed.

IN Colorado, under direction of J. P. McKelvey, AAA, 32 county agricultural transportation committees are running, with membership representing USDA War Boards, tire-rationing boards, truckers' organizations and independent truckers, law-enforcement officers, farm organizations, planning committees, county commissioners, service organizations, newspapers, and farmers (nice to have farmers on those things). A key man in each community works out pooling plans. Although the committees are still in the organization stage, a 25-percent reduction in mileage is estimated.

MORE than three-quarters of a million acres of National Forest land has been made available to the Army and Navy for camps, maneuver areas, and other military uses. In most cases the lands were made available under letters of permission from Secretary Wickard, and will return to Forest Service administration after the war.

USDA workers help pilots "pass the physical"

AMA's regional office in Dallas, Tex., has formed an "Adopt-a-Pilot Club." Two prospective pilot candidates who had been turned down by the Flight Boards because of minor physical disabilities have just been sworn in as cadet pilots because of the aid rendered them by AMA's Club.

Neither the Army nor the Navy has at present writing funds to correct physical disabilities in pilot candidates. The idea of AMA's Club is to provide the necessary funds for medical care to rehabilitate pilot material that has been turned down because of physical disability that could be corrected.

Voluntary donations from 25 cents to \$5.00 from individuals were collected to set up the fund to pay for medical services and hospitalization. The Flight Boards of both the Army and Navy submit to AMA names of pilot candidates that have been re-

jected by flight surgeons because of physical disability. If the boys have no means of paying for medical care to make the necessary corrections, AMA's Club gets in touch with local doctors and pays for hospitalization and medical services.

The two boys recently sworn in were Earl Young, 20 years old, Dallas, Tex., and Milo L. Crawford, 20 years old, of Roswell, N. Mex. The Dallas Club hopes other bureaus of the Department throughout the United States will sponsor a club of their own and help rehabilitate pilots that are being lost to our armed forces because they are financially unable to pay for hospitalization and medical care. They invite inquiries on how the plan works. Write AMA Adopt-a-Pilot Club, 425 Wilson Building, Dallas, Tex.—MENO SCHOENBACH, AMA, *Marketing Reports Division*, Dallas.

Scrap harvest

RANGER G. L. Olson, of the Santa Fe National Forest in New Mexico, has made his ranger station a clearing house for scrap. Neighbors and local settlers have already brought in some 5,000 pounds in wagons, wheelbarrows, and by hand. Recently Ranger Olson himself brought in 600 pounds by pick-up truck and 250 pounds by pack-horse from remote sections of the forest.

There are still some city workers in USDA who haven't searched their own back yards.

B. G. SOUTHWICK, SCS, is checking on the chances of salvaging an abandoned rural branch of the New Haven R. R. (inform the Bureau of Industrial Conservation, War Production Board, Washington, D. C., if you have similar ideas).

Rumor-stopper

Here is a rumor-stopper every USDA worker can use on his neighbors: The New Mexico State USDA War Board issued a press release to explain why old car bodies, etc., are still in dealers' yards. The dealers are waiting for the scrap to be baled; are not hoarding or profiteering just because scrap piles are still visible from the highroad.

Gas and oil

The Department is in the gas and oil business. On most land administered by the USDA, the Interior Department manages the subsurface mineral rights, but on some 32,300 acres (including some forest land and land-utilization and resettlement projects) a Department Minerals Policy Committee, headed by Carl Tjerandsen, OLUC, looks after gas and oil resources.



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November 20, 1942

Quarterly report

QUARTERLY, each burean and agency of the Department makes a confidential report to the Secretary on its war work. For the archives of the Government at war (now being compiled here in Washington) and for the future welfare of the Nation, these reports are invaluable. Research now under way in Department laboratories will have a far-reaching effect on American life in times of peace. Many reports must remain confidential for the present. A few items of current activity, however, can be told. For example:

You can't get down off an elephant, you get down off a goose, says the nursery riddle. But nowadays we don't get down at all, because our supply came from Europe. Chicken feathers with the quills are scratchy, lumpy; but BAI reports that when they have been dequilled by a grinding and blowing operation, there remains a soft, fluffy fiber which feels like kapok (likewise scarce). It is being made into feather comforters for the War Department, and is also being tested for sleeping bags. Feather fiber can be blended with wool to make soft felt.

Woollier sheep

We need woollier sheep, and BAI is helping farmers to get them. During the last century the annual fleece weight per sheep in the United States increased from two to eight pounds. Some improved flocks now average annual fleece weights of twelve pounds for breeding ewes. As one definite help, BAI has now worked out an index which farmers can use for selecting breeding animals whose offspring should have heavy fleeces.

Other BAI offices are working up a program for collecting pig bristles on the farms, for the brush industry, to replace bristles which formerly came from the Orient. The best bristles are obtained from the necks and backs of older boars and sows. When clipped from live animals, they



PHOTO BY KILLIAN

STATISTICIAN C.E. Burkhead learns from Maryland farmer W. P. Hunter the extent of his winter wheat acreage and the condition of the crop. This first-hand fact-gathering is the basic USDA job.

grow out again to furnish an additional supply. The Navy and Army need large quantities of brushes for painting ships and barracks and for other military uses.

BAI is studying methods of shell-egg preservation, for use where re-

frigeration is not available. Among many processes tried, the best results, so far, have come from dipping eggs in mineral oil at room temperature on the day the eggs are laid. Eggs so treated will keep for table use for more than a month at 70° F.

Farm manpower program

THE broad program announced October 28 by the War Manpower Commission for alleviating the shortage of essential farm workers in dairy, livestock, and poultry production is already lining up thousands of USDA workers in the closest kind of teamwork with each other and with other agencies. The Department works in harness with Selective Service, U. S. Employment Service (now a part of the Manpower Commission), U. S. Office of Education, the armed services, and industry.

Deferments

Under the program, draft boards are asked to classify in Group III-B dairy, livestock, and poultry farm workers now deferred for dependency and to grant occupational deferment to other dairy, livestock, and poultry farmers and farm hands who are "necessary men" for whom replacements are not available. Such workers would be subject to reclassification as soon as they ceased to perform the work for which they had been deferred. The Army and Navy will refrain from recruiting essential dairy, livestock, or poultry workers and producers, or accepting them as volunteers; other employers, including contractors and subcontractors handling Government work, will refrain from hiring skilled workers who have been engaged in dairy, livestock, or poultry production.

Our part of the job

As necessary, the Department is authorized to stabilize wages on dairy, livestock, and poultry farms at levels which will help keep necessary labor on the farms. Studies of certain critical production areas are now being made in BAE. Existing Department programs can be used in this connection, just as existing programs of various USDA agencies are used to obtain increased farm production; or new programs can be devised if needed.

The Department, through AMA, will cooperate with the War Production Board to control the sale of dairy cows for slaughter. Full authority for this action was given the Secretary by Chairman Nelson of the WPB, on October 21.

The program also includes plans to assist producers in building up

livestock numbers, using the established credit facilities in the Farm Credit and Farm Security Administrations. Extension will cooperate with the vocational-agriculture teachers in training unskilled workers (both men and women) to help out on farms. The Department will continue to cooperate closely with U. S. Employment Service offices. These are at the center of the whole program. However, the program also includes aid to farm operators in buying or renting more productive farms. (This is in line with Secretary Wickard's proposal advanced at Peoria (see *USDA*, October 20) We Must Get Them on Good Land.) FSA, Extension, and other agencies stand ready to help out here. The program includes assistance in transporting skilled farm operators and laborers to farms where they are most needed. This is only an extension of the moving job FSA has been doing for months past (see *USDA*, August 20).

Definitions

As defined by the Manpower Commission, an essential farm is one with at least 12 dairy cows, with a minimum annual production of 45,000 pounds of milk, or the equivalent in livestock or poultry, or a combination of animals units which meet this standard. Farms which now have at least 8 dairy cows, or the equivalent, can qualify as essential if the operators take steps to increase dairy, livestock, or poultry numbers. Selective Service Boards will allow such farmers 3 months to make the increase to 10, and 3 more months to increase the total to 12 cows, or the equivalent.

USDA-WMC liaison officers

Employment Service offices are now under the direction of the 12 regional offices of the War Manpower Commission. On October 20, Mr. Wickard designated 12 USDA workers as regional consultants on agricultural labor. They will be liaison officers between State USDA War Boards and WMC regional offices, and also between the WMC regional offices and the Department of Agriculture as a whole.

It is interesting to note that these 12 liaison officers represent six different Department agencies. Mr.

Wickard did not pick bureaus for this job, he picked men.

The consultants, the WMC regions they serve, and their regular Department duties are as follows: I, Samuel W. Tator, market administrator, Boston; II, Ralph DeWolfe, chairman, New York USDA War Board, Ithaca; III, Harold Ballou, USDA regional information representative, Upper Darby, Pa.; IV, Arthur J. Holmaas, OAWR Farm Labor Division, Washington; V, Maurice A. Doan, chairman, Michigan USDA War Board, Lansing; VI, Walter Sassaman, FSA labor relations specialist, Milwaukee; VII, Thomas L. Elder, FSA labor relations specialist, Montgomery, Ala.; VIII, Charles W. Stickney, chairman, Minnesota USDA War Board, St. Paul; IX, Fred R. Merrifield, FCA general agent, Wichita, Kans.; X, B. J. Walker, FSA labor relations specialist, Dallas, Tex.; XI, C. E. Hazard, FSA labor relations specialist, Denver; XII, Edward J. Rowell, FSA labor relations specialist, San Francisco.

VICTORY FOOD SPECIAL: December 3-12, fresh grapefruit and tangerines.

LATIN-AMERICAN engineers, in the United States for a year's work and study with REA, are giving a series of free forum lectures on their respective countries at St. Louis University. Over 200 persons attended the opening forum.

Management column

Suggestion on suggestions

All USDA workers in Washington and the field this month received Secretary Wickard's memorandum on employee suggestions. (See *USDA*, July 5, September 20.)

The machinery for submitting suggestions from employees differs somewhat in each agency. Ask your supervisor. But wherever you work, and whatever you do, your suggestion for improving any phase of the Department's work will be promptly acknowledged, investigated, and put into effect if it is feasible. If it is not feasible, you will be told why.

The field should need no urging; it has always originated its share of the

good ideas which come out under a Washington date line. Under the new plan, field workers will get credit for them.

What kind of suggestions are wanted? Suggestions that will help the Department help win the war. Don't hesitate to write down your ideas, even though they may seem to concern a small matter. (It may have a wider bearing than you know.)

Women take over

Seven women in the REA Technical Standards Division—stenographers, typists, and secretaries—are learning the simpler phases of engineering work in their spare time, in order to be ready to fill in the ranks as engineers are called into service. One of them, Mrs. Evelyn McLain, is working on her first sectionalizing study—highly complex plans for shutting off certain sections of a power line whenever trouble in the section threatens to disrupt service.

Are there other examples of Department women getting ready to take over men's work?

REA officials report that fatal accidents among its rural-electric system personnel during the first nine months of 1942 were 70 percent less than last year.

Nominations closed

Joseph A. Becker, principal statistician of BAE, nominates as most versatile USDA employee a field statistician of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service, and offers the following supporting evidence:

"He must know on which side of a cow to sit while milking. * * * He must have the 'figger-sense' of proportion that leads his eye to the spot on the sheet of figures where something is wrong. * * *

"Drought finds him driving in an oven-hot car where dust chokes him and heat waves flicker before his tired eyes; frosts and freezes find him inspecting orchards, truck farms, and winter-grain fields; floods find him on river banks. * * * He must be sufficiently versed in agronomy, a horticulturist, too; a plant pathologist of sorts, and an entomologist. He must learn to appraise the statistics of weather. He must know his animal husbandry. He must understand the marketing processes.

"A good soldier"

"Must he be a politician? Rather, let us say, that he must be a diplomat.

The crop and livestock statistician must be a psychologist of native and acquired keenness. He must know or come to know instinctively how much credence he shall give to the things he hears. * * * He must have faith that the output of his office is overwhelmingly beneficial to agriculture and to society as a whole. * * * He is a good soldier. With a shrug and a grin he reads belated instructions from Washington which will require a retabulation. * * *

"Farmer, mathematician, agronomist, horticulturist, pathologist, entomologist, husbandman, meteorologist, economist, statistician, and journalist, he is above all a most rugged performer when the road is roughest."

Mr. Becker has not only proved the surpassing versatility of the agricultural statistician. He has written a bill of specifications for the ideal USDA worker.

1943 outlook

FOLLOWING the Outlook Conference, the Department, as usual, released its forecast for the coming year.

Farmers next year probably will produce more livestock than in 1942, although crop production may be smaller than 1942's record production (which is nearly 12 percent greater than 1941, and 40 percent greater than the famous war year of 1918). Farm income for 1943 is forecast at 10 to 10.5 billion dollars, compared with an estimated 9.8 billion for 1942 (which is about a billion more than the previous record of 1919).

Abundant feed supplies and good prices are expected again to stimulate increased livestock production next year. The 1942 corn crop may exceed the record set in 1920, and it is being grown on 12 percent less acreage. However, unless the weather is unusually good, difficulties of labor, transportation, and supplies will make it hard to equal this year's harvest, when yields per acre appear to be averaging 13 percent above previous records.

One-fifth for Army and Allies

Military and lend-lease buying of food in 1943 is expected to be 50 percent greater than in 1942, and to take one-fifth of current farm production. Without privation and with no greater inconvenience than making certain adjustments in food habits,

American civilians will be as well nourished as ever. By dint of nutrition campaigns and increased purchasing power, many civilians may be better fed than formerly, despite shortages in individual commodities. The nutritional value of the civilian food supply is expected to be about the same as in 1935-36.

The average civilian will consume about as much meat next year as in recent years, but unprecedented demand resulting from record incomes will make rationing necessary. Meanwhile, the share-the-meat campaign asks voluntary restriction of consumption to 2½ pounds per adult per week. The demand for dairy products next year should exceed supply. Bread grains will be abundant. Secretary Wickard has already asked for 10 percent more pork next year, 200 million additional chickens this fall and winter, and an increase in carrots, lima beans, snap beans, and onions to offset a probable decreased supply.

Prices of agricultural products in 1943, under ceilings, should remain close to present levels—about 6 percent above the average estimated for the entire year 1942.

Shortages

In 1943, only 20 percent as much new farm machinery will be made as in 1940. Eighteen types are now being rationed, and next year about four times as many may be. There should be enough repair parts. New fencing will be scarce and rationed.

Uses of nitrogen fertilizer are being limited. Farmers will rely more heavily on legumes and farm manures. There should be enough phosphorus and potash fertilizers. With careful handling, essential needs for insecticides and fungicides apparently can be met, but substitutes may be necessary. Secretary Wickard has approved a tobacco diversion program which should make available an additional 2,000,000 pounds of nicotine sulphate.

Machinery

NEGLECT, according to a discussion held by the California USDA War Board, causes 90 percent of all motor failures. The board plans an educational program on care of farm machinery, with the aid of farm-

machinery and pump manufacturers, power companies, Extension Service, and Experiment Stations. * * * D. J. Howard, State supervisor of vocational agriculture in Virginia, reported that vocational-agriculture teachers in that State, cooperating with the War Boards in repairing farm machinery, had fixed over 10,000 machines from 9,000 different farms and had instructed over 10,000 individuals in repair. * * * In New York, the Extension Service is continuing its maintenance-and-repair school, while Extension agents survey new farm-machinery needs in the State for the coming year.

Transportation

THE Georgia USDA War Board reports that sometimes two farmers pool their trucks by jacking up one truck, taking off the good tires, and putting them on the neighbor's truck, which does the hauling for both. * * * A South Dakota War Board survey of trucks coming to public markets and sales rings shows that 30 to 40 percent of the trucks will be off the road within a year if additional tires are not available. * * * The Wyoming War Board has suggested to the State tire-rationing board that each county have reserve stocks of tires for emergency use by farmers during sugar-beet hauling. * * * Extension Service reports that of nearly 22,000 farm trucks in Georgia, over 13,000 are available for cooperative hauling by neighbors. Many, of course, are not available because farmers need them full time, or because of specialized use.

Norepol

Last month Secretary Wickard visited the Northern Regional Research Laboratory of BACE at Peoria, saw a rubber substitute made from soybean oil, and christened norepol—from the words "northern," "research," and "polymer," the last being the process by which the oil is made into a rubber-like substance. Norepol, which can also be made from several other farm products such as corn, cottonseed, and linseed, is still a laboratory product, but it shows promising ability to substitute for rubber in various ways, and it may also be mixed with real rubber as an extender. Work is continuing at the laboratory on the butylene-

glycol process for making synthetic rubber out of corn, wheat, and other grains without going through the intermediate step of converting the grain into alcohol.

The Beltsville plan

IN JANUARY 1942, Adam K. Miller, BHE technician stationed at the Beltsville Research Center, drafted a proposed Nation-wide plan for organized transportation which he sent to the War Production Board. WPB forwarded it to the Office of Defense Transportation. Soon, his car-sharing plan was used by war plants all over the country and by Congress as a basis for allowing supplemental gasoline. Meanwhile, Beltsville itself has refined and perfected the scheme to a high degree.

Beltsville is 17 miles from the zero milestone in the District of Columbia, and its 1,671 employees are scattered over the District, Virginia, and Maryland, some coming from 30 to 35 miles. Share-driving had already been practiced by research center employees for many years, but since the war the movement has spread rapidly.

Bureau representatives met in the office of the Agricultural Research Administrator, E. C. Auchter, and voted to establish a full-time position of transportation manager for Beltsville, the cost to be prorated among the bureaus. A committee was formed of employees of the various units and a representative of management. C. A. Logan was elected chairman, Dr. Floyd Smith, vice chairman, and W. H. Hunt, transportation manager.

Under the Beltsville plan, the transportation manager, as the responsible officer of the board, certifies



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applications of employees for supplementary gasoline or for tires or recaps; helps employees to make car-pooling or rotating arrangements and helps those without cars to solve their transportation problems.

On a large map in Hunt's office, tacks show the homes of all employees. Further data on several questionnaires circulated among employees have been studied. As national gas rationing tightens the transportation squeeze across the country, BRC War Transportation Board will be glad to furnish copies of its bylaws and any other data that might be helpful to USDA field offices and laboratories.

Scrap harvest

THE War Production Board has accepted an offer by REA to mobilize 850 rural electric associations in the scrap drive. Electric service trucks operating throughout 2,500 counties in 45 States will help to haul metal from farms and rural-school scrap piles to loading points. Local cooperatives will also continue to promote the campaign through monthly news letters and other media.

Department people

With the colors

Twenty-one USDA women had joined the WAVES and WAACs by the end of September. FSA led the list, with 7 women; the remainder were from AAA, BAE, BEPQ, FS, SCS, AMA, Extension, and Solicitor's Office. Women, as well as men, get military furloughs.

Since October 1940, 7,065 men have received military furloughs or separations from the Department.

PRIVATE First Class Alton Fleming, erstwhile FSA assistant rural rehabilitation supervisor, has reversed the old adage, and in time of war is preparing for peace. "Am desirous of keeping informed of the latest improvements in the field of agriculture," Private Fleming wrote to the Department. The subjects he is most interested in are farm management, soil building, crop rotation, poultry raising, diseases and insects, and the SCS and FSA programs.

December 5, 1942

Our deadline is spring

OUR operation lacks both the danger and the secrecy of a great military campaign. It is conducted by civilians within our own country, with the fullest publicity. But in scope, complexity, and exact timing, the campaign to achieve the 1943 farm-production goals will rank among the greatest efforts of the United States; that is, provided we achieve them.

Achieve them we must. The goals themselves (printed in full on p. 4) are in fact a part of the world-wide American strategy now unfolding with such breath-taking results around the world. Soon after the first African landings, a Washington headline read, "Food Our Best Weapon in Algeria." Food can prove to be our best weapon in many another country in the year to come.

Farming as usual is out

The specific farm products needed must be delivered when they are wanted, with the same precision as the tanks, planes, guns, and men. But not just any crops the farmer feels like planting. Farming as usual is out for the duration.

To do the production job in 1943, farmers must have the aid of every branch of this Department. But they cannot plant unless they know the exact needs, and have the assurance of the price supports (see p. 4) and other aids which the Department has devised to help them overcome their growing difficulties. USDA workers must get the facts to them in time. Our deadline is spring, which cannot be delayed.

The spade work was done last summer, when the Department determined how much of what could possibly be produced next year in each State of the Union, if necessary (see *USDA*, September 5). Within this framework of physical possibilities, the Combined Food Board surveyed the joint needs of the United Nations and decided how much would be our share to produce. Finally, men of the Army, Navy, Lend-Lease, State

Department, and War Production Board who serve on the Nation's Foods Requirements Committee, met with Secretary Wickard, chairman, to give final consideration to the 1943 goals which Mr. Wickard announced November 30.

The real, grim struggle on the farms has started, much harder than the achievement of 1942's magnificent harvest. The goals call for more than a third more meat than has normally been consumed in this country; an 8 percent increase in egg production; two million pounds more milk than this year; more corn,

less wheat; more peanuts for food and oil; more long-staple cotton and less short staple; more potatoes and more dry beans; more of the vegetables vital to good diet and less of the "luxury" items and those low in food value.

We must overcome huge handicaps. There will be only a fourth as much new farm machinery as last year. Farmers will be short of trucks for moving crops and farm supplies. Nitrates for fertilizer must be used principally for crops essential to the war effort. It will be hard to find enough labor. In spite of all the



FOOD will win the war and write the peace—if we can supply the right kind, at the right place, and the right time.

arrangements that can be made, the farmers and their families must work longer and harder hours.

Farmers will keep us busy

So must many USDA workers. We are in the thick of it. For help and advice on getting scarce materials and substitutes for those unobtainable, farmers will ask their county War Boards—or the first member of their local War Boards whom they see. They will ask not only about labor and machinery and fertilizer rationing and truck pooling, but about supplies of bags, twine, baling wire, fertilizer, welding rod for repairing their machinery on the farm during the winter months of preparation.

And farmers will ask not once but many times about the price supports—which are complex, unavoidably. They will want to know, too, about the need and the purpose for which they are asked to plant every acre and speed every hour of their labor. Rank-and-file USDA workers in many Department offices will need to know the answers. This is no time to tell a farmer to "come back when Mr. Jones is here," or advise him to write to Washington.

And in the cities

USDA workers in the city offices are needed to keep the administrative machinery running. But they have "outside" contacts almost equally important. From cities and towns next year must come volunteer workers—many more than in 1942—to help farmers. USDA workers in cities can help to line them up. Consumers must know the reasons for food rationing. They must know that about one-fourth of all our vast food production next year will go to the armed forces and Allies—old and new. Thus, a vital contribution can be made by the well-informed USDA worker in the city. Speak up for Victory! It's part of our job.

Meetings in progress

So far as the specific duties of USDA workers in the goals campaign are concerned, that is now being decided at a series of four regional meetings of 3 days each, starting at Denver on November 30. The second began at Chicago on December 4. The third is at Memphis, December 7, and the final gathering, for the Northeastern States, is at New York, starting December 14.

At each meeting Secretary Wickard explains the goals to the members of the State War Boards, to the regional directors of those USDA agencies which make up the War Boards, and to Extension editors, AAA State information chiefs, and to a few other USDA information workers, for this whole campaign is partly an information job.

Driving up the lane

On the third day of each meeting, the War Board members will discuss the break-down of final State goals and how to get the message to the farmers. Plans for further action may vary somewhat from region to region, State to State. AAA committeemen, as they did last year, will drive up to the 6 million different gates, talk with each farmer, get each to sign a plan to do his share.

After the canvass, comes the long hard pull on every nerve and sinew of the Department, to help the farmers make it good.

Coordination in Alabama

In the last analysis, the ingenuity of local USDA workers in the 3,000 counties of America, as much as the broad programs authorized by Congress and developed in Washington, is helping farmers do the job. Here are some examples recently reported by county War Boards in Alabama:

Talladega County WB, with county and city schools, staged a cotton-picking day. All schools turned out. Children rode to farms on school buses and helped pick about 750 bales of cotton. * * * A "cotton picker's week" was celebrated in Etowah County. Merchants, schools, offices shut up shop to help harvest the crop. Even Extension and AAA workers left the office to help farmers pick cotton. * * * The Jackson County high school athletic coach and team picked a bale of cotton daily before going to the practice field.

Etowah County WB appointed women leaders in each community to help carry out WB requests. * * * Lauderdale and St. Clair Counties report women and children have done most of the harvesting. * * * WB's in Colbert and Jackson Counties arranged to transport women available for farm work.

Henry County worked out a plan to equip two trucks in each community to take crops to market and bring back supplies to the farm. The plan was approved by the local rationing board. The WB submits names of truck operators to the State rationing board. * * * Monroe County WB secured the use, for the scrap drive, of a fleet of heavy trucks used by BEPQ, which handles white-fringed beetle control in the county.

* * * County engineers in Montgomery County lent their trucks for hauling scrap. * * * In Pickens County, Parent Teacher Associations, 4-H Clubs, schools, and various organizations are helping the War Board collect it. * * * Talladega County WB planned a house-to-house canvass. Letters were written to persons reported as having scrap to be collected.

THE Supreme Court decision of November 9, 1942, in the case of Wickard *v. Filburn*, upheld the extension of the quota system to all wheat, including that consumed on the farm. The decision is of interest to all concerned with the AAA program—and a strong AAA program is essential for the rapid and complete conversion of American farms to war production.

LYLE F. WATTS, regional forester from Portland, Oreg., as assistant to Secretary Wickard, will coordinate farm-labor activities of the Department.

Conservation is a weapon

Said Dr. H. H. Bennett, SCS chief, in Canada last month: "More than labor difficulties and bad weather are to blame, I believe, for the short crops and diminishing food production in the Axis countries this year. Land, as well as human beings, can revolt against evil treatment. * * * Our mammoth production was not gained—not this year at any rate—at the expense of our basic resource, the productive soil. * * * Every measure, every device that we can employ that will produce for us more food from the same amount of land—and with less labor, fuel, and equipment—will need to be employed. Conservation meets these requirements, and before the war is over Hitler will know that conservation was one of the weapons we used to wreck him."

Department people

FOREST SERVICE officers in Alaska helped local authorities relocate over 800 native evacuees from the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands when the Japs attacked. A number of Aleuts from the Atka Island group are now employed on trail work on the Tongass National Forest.

The thin man

According to R. S. Henry, author of *This Fascinating Railroad Business*: "With the start of the harvest, cars begin to roll from loading points to terminals and subterminals in the grain belt. There they are sampled by thin young men who crawl into the space between the top of the grain and the roof of the car, left for that purpose, and probe the load with hollow tubes thrust down at various points in the load, which bring up samples secured at several levels. Samples are taken to the laboratory for test, are inspected and graded—a process which goes on, at the height of the movement, for 18 hours out of the day, to keep up with the rush."

George Collier and R. H. Black, of AMA, say the grain samplers need not necessarily be thin. Mr. Black knows some 200-pounders. However, they must pass a strict physical exam and must be agile. Last year about 600 samplers and 403 inspectors were employed. About two-thirds of them work the year round, though of course the heaviest work comes right after harvest.

Army asks your snapshots

The Office of Strategic Services (Joint U. S. Chiefs of Staff) is anxious to obtain still photographs or motion pictures (35 mm or 16 mm) of various parts of the world which might be helpful in the war effort. Anyone having such material should promptly get in touch with Strategic Photos, Office of Strategic Services, Pictorial Records Division, 1600 Broadway, New York, N. Y., and questionnaires will be mailed.

WALTER F. CONWAY, in charge of printing for USDA Office of Information, has gone to OWI. H. Stewart Potter, of the same section, leaves for OEM. Edward Gallagher is acting chief of printing.

DR. CHARLES THOM, BPI principal mycologist and a member of the National Academy of Sciences, retired on November 30 after many years of USDA service, all of which has helped the American food industry to prepare for its present titanic war effort. In 1904 he joined the Dairy Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry to work on the manufacture of soft and fancy cheeses at Storrs, Conn. Later he headed the microbiological laboratory of the former Bureau of Chemistry, and from 1927 to the present had been in charge of soil microbiology research. He has published many scientific articles on the biology of cheese, cheese ripening, food poisoning, and soil microbiology, is widely known for his work on two genera of molds, and was co-author of *The Book of Cheese and Fundamentals of Food Handling*.

MORDECAI EZEKIEL, economic adviser to Secretary Wickard, is on loan as assistant to C. E. Wilson, vice chairman of WPB in charge of production.

"EGGS LAID TO ORDER, by Harry W. Titus," says the front page of a mimeographed talk by a Beltsville scientist. Dr. Titus reports eggs may be produced with shells of white, light brown, dark brown, or blue, and yolks of almost any shade from lemon through gold to a deep orange-red. Selection of breeds will control the shell color and the consistency of the whites, while feeding will not only control the color of the yolks but also their content of vitamins A, B, and D and of iodine and copper.

THE USDA Club in Minneapolis-St. Paul is interested in promoting a plan for prepaid medical care available to employees. To help low-income farm families enjoy good health and thus be able to repay its loans, FSA years ago introduced its county medical plan, in cooperation with county medical associations. Another arrangement is the group health plan open to USDA workers and others in Washington. Group health centers are reported operating in New York, Chicago, Kansas City, St. Louis, Elk City, Okla., Milwaukee, and San Francisco.

E. N. BRESSMAN, formerly assistant director of OFAR, is director of the new Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences, at Turrialba, Costa Rica.

Administrative writing

Early this year, W. D. Boutwell of the U. S. Office of Education wrote a brief paper, *Ten Major Faults in Government Writing*, which rapidly spread through public offices. It was reprinted by Congressman Knut Hill, and also by American University, Washington, D. C., from which a few copies may still be obtained by interested USDA employees.

Scientific writing

In our own Department, Arthur P. Chew, who since 1924 has compiled the annual reports of the Secretaries of Agriculture (considered models of their kind) commented as follows on the character of much scientific writing before a class in the Graduate School:

"Ultimately, the only way to get first-rate scientific writing is to get it from the scientists themselves, since they are the only people who know really what science has to say. They can use editorial help, especially in the minutiae of writing, such as grammar, punctuation, and paragraphing. But the basic product should be their own. It will save their time, and that of other folk, if they learn to write soundly from the start, and to depend less on editorial help."

"What is chiefly wrong in scientific writing, and thoroughly destructive of its purpose, is the use of esoteric jargon where common words would serve as well or better. This fatal sickness, which is highly resistant to mere warnings, deserves careful diagnosis. Everyone knows the symptoms. When the victim has a choice of words or terms, he chooses the rarer or more pretentious ones, either because he thinks them more impressive or because he has forgotten their common synonyms. He turns away from English and uses a dialect known only to a few * * *. Essentially, the user of excess jargon hopes to communicate his meaning by a sort of telepathy, which will save him the trouble of spelling his meaning out. He knows that easy reading is hard writing and he does not like hard writing."

Mr. Chew did not specify any individuals or offices. Most USDA workers, however, will know exactly what he means.

PRODUCTION GOALS AND PRICE SUPPORTS FOR 1943

Commodity	Acres or numbers	1942 goal	1942 reported	1943 goal	1943 goal as percentage of—	
					1942 goal	1942 reported
Wheat	A	55,000	53,427	52,500	95	98
Rye ²	A	3,550	3,868	3,600	101	93
Rice	A	1,320	1,481	1,380	105	93
MORE Corn	A	193,750	91,098	95,000	102	104
Oats	A	40,000	40,600	37,300	93	92
Barley	A	16,000	18,193	18,000	112	99
MORE Grain sorghum		10,000	9,221	10,000	100	108
Hay, all ²	A	72,000	72,710	71,100	99	98
MORE Flaxseed	A	4,500	4,675	5,000	111	107
Soybeans for beans ²	A	9,000	10,900	10,500	117	96
MORE Peanuts ²	A	5,000	4,173	5,500	110	132
MORE Dry beans	A	2,600	2,376	2,800	108	118
MORE Dry peas	A	665	530	665	100	125
Cotton	A	25,000	24,005	22,500	90	94
Tobacco:						
Flue-cured	A	841	796	841	100	105
Burley	A	383	356	421	110	118
Other domestic	A	272	246	272	100	110
Sugarcane	A	330	331	340	103	103
Sugar beets	A	1,050	1,061	1,050	100	99
MORE Potatoes	A	3,060	2,845	3,160	103	111
Sweetpotatoes	A	850	757	757	88	100
Commercial truck crops	A	1,840	1,738	1,720	94	99
MORE Hay crop seeds	A	4,919	3,339	4,709	96	141
Hemp	A			300		
Fruit (fresh)	Tons	15,018	15,271	14,610	97	96
MORE Cattle and calves	Lbs. ⁴	9,585,000	10,160,000	10,910,000	114	107
Sheep and lambs	Lbs.	940,000	1,009,000	990,000	105	98
MORE Hogs	Lbs.	11,125,000	10,800,000	13,800,000	124	127
MORE Lard	Lbs.	2,820,000	2,500,000	3,400,000	121	136
MORE Milk	Lbs.	125,000,000	120,000,000	122,000,000	98	102
MORE Eggs	Doz. ⁵	4,200,000	4,414,000	4,780,000	114	108
MORE Chickens	Lbs. ⁴	3,118,000	3,118,000	4,000,000	128	128
MORE Turkeys	Lbs.	500,000	485,000	560,000	112	115

¹ Midpoint of range.

² Harvested acres.

Allotment same as 1942, acreage expected same as 1942.

Dressed weight.

⁴ Total production.

The Department will endeavor to support prices for dairy and poultry products, meat animals, and those food crops most essential for home use and shipment abroad at a level which will assure producers of attractive returns. Prices will be above the announced support levels for many commodities during 1943. Specific loan, purchase, or other programs will be announced from time to time as needed.

Feed prices, especially prices of corn, feed wheat, and oil meal, will be maintained so far as possible at about the 1942 levels. CCC loans on corn, wheat, cotton, rice, and tobacco will be available to cooperators under the AAA program at 85 or 90 percent of parity. Loans on grain sorghums and barley will be slightly higher than in 1942.

Details of the price-support formulas are available from the State War Board or from the Department at Washington. Besides the percentage of parity or comparable price, for most commodities minimum cash figures are also given. The floor will be either the percentage or the cash figure, whichever is higher.

Under the Steagall amendment, the Department will support, at 90 percent of parity, the price of HOGS through September 30, 1944, and for the following through June 30, 1944: EGGS, CHICKENS (except broilers or those under three pounds), TURKEYS, BUTTER, CHEESE, DRY SKIM

MILK, and EVAPORATED MILK. The 1943 crops of the following will also be supported at 90 percent of parity or the comparable price, calculated as of the beginning of the marketing year for each: DRY PEAS (wrinkled varieties will not be supported); DRY EDIBLE BEANS; SOYBEANS FOR OIL; FLAXSEED FOR

OIL; POTATOES; and AMERICAN-EGYPTIAN COTTON.

For PEANUTS, the Department recommends a single price program (requiring new legislation) for all peanuts, which will assure growers of an average return between 80 and 85 percent of parity. If a single price program is not possible, price-support programs similar to those in 1942 will be continued.

The Department will also endeavor to support prices for those fresh vegetables and fresh and canning fruits which are deemed essential. Specific price supports for DRIED APPLES, APRICOTS, PEACHES, PEARS, PRUNES, and RAISINS will be worked out and announced about February 1, 1943. Price supports will generally be about the same as for 1942. Before February 1, support prices will be announced for SNAP BEANS, CORN, PEAS, TOMATOES, BEETS, CARROTS, PUMPKIN, and SQUASH for processing. In general, as in 1942, these support prices will be maintained through certification of canners agreeing to pay specified prices to growers. 1943 HEMP SEED will be purchased at not less than \$9.00 per bushel and hemp straw at \$30.00 to \$50.00 per ton. Consideration is being given to price supports for COVER CROP and HAY SEEDS in 1943. Purchase or support prices for these and other special crops will be announced as needed.



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December 20, 1942

USDA to mobilize the farms

THE No. 1 job of all Department agencies in the months of December, January, and February will be to assist in the mobilization of agriculture for maximum production of the needed crops and livestock in 1943.

Mobilization Day for all American farmers will be held on a day during the week of January 11. Each county War Board will appoint a 1943 Mobilization Day committee, which will include farmers representing organizations and cooperatives, and city people representing the press, radio stations, and civic and business organizations. On Mobilization Day farmers will gather in community meetings or a county meeting to hear an explanation of the program. AAA community committee men and their assistants appointed by county War Boards will go into action thereafter, completing the sign-up in every farm in the county.

Wickard is Food Administrator

But long before Mobilization Day, a vast deal of other work involving all agencies must be done. For this year the Department is not only helping farmers schedule their production; we are taking a complete inventory of all our resources and arranging to use those resources at the point in the war effort where they will do the most good. And not only the farmers are being mobilized. The entire food industry of America is being mobilized too—and under a common direction.

The Secretary of Agriculture, by the President's Executive order of December 5, is now in charge of both the production and the distribution of foods. The whole job is in his hands—determining the Nation's requirements for food for all purposes (the previous Foods Requirements

Committee is abolished), carrying out the production programs, assigning priorities and allocations for food supplies, and taking "all appropriate steps to insure the efficient and proper distribution of the available supply of food." The order directs the Secretary to cooperate closely with the War Production Board (of which he is now a member), the Office of Price Administration (through which food rationing will be handled), and other agencies of the Government.

In planning to produce to the utmost, farmers will have greater assurance than ever before. And all Department employees, more than ever, must understand the essentials of the whole food job—from seed-time through harvest, through processing, storing, transporting, and distributing to the ultimate soldier, sailor, civilian, ally, or refugee who eats it.



HERBERT W. PARISIUS
Director of Food Production

499259°—42



ROY F. HENDRICKSON
Director of Food Distribution



EUGENE C. AUCHTER
Agricultural Research Administrator

The reorganized Department

The goals campaign of last year was preceded by a reorganization which gave the Department of Agriculture a simpler, more efficient structure. Triple-A and SCS were joined in the ACAA; various research bureaus were joined under the ARA; and the marketing agencies were merged into the AMA.

Now, we are taking another step in organization. "To facilitate the effective discharge of the Secretary's responsibility under this Executive order," President Roosevelt has made the following changes in our Department:

The ACAA (except for the Sugar Agency); FCA; FSA; Division of Farm Management and Costs of BAE; and the food production divisions of OAWR are consolidated into one agency: the Food PRODUCTION ADMINISTRATION.

The AMA, Sugar Agency of ACAA; regulatory activities of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the ARA; and that part of OAWR concerned with food distribution are consolidated into one agency: the Food DISTRIBUTION ADMINISTRATION.

Research functions remain in the AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION.

Each is headed by an administrator.

The remaining divisions of OAWR will continue as an advisory unit on the Secretary's staff.

CCC programs concerned with food production or distribution are to be approved by the Director of Food Production or the Director of Food Distribution.

The Director of Information is in charge of all information activities of the several agencies of the Department.

The status and functions of other bureaus and agencies within the Department remain unchanged.

The Agricultural War Board becomes the Department War Board, with a membership of eight: the Directors of Food Production, Food Distribution, and Agricultural Research; the President of the CCC; the Director of Extension; the Chief of the Forest Service; the Rural Electrification Administrator; and the Chief of BAE.

For the time being, the Department's administrative set-up at regional, State, and county levels will function without change.

Those parts of the War Production Board which have been primarily concerned with the duties now vested in the Secretary by the Executive order will come over to our Department and will become parts of the Food Production Administration or the Food Distribution Administration, as the case may be.

Food, under the terms of the order, includes practically all farm products.

USDA workers already know their places in the main, immediate job—to get the 1943 farm mobilization campaign a-rolling.

Farmers get ready

During the latter part of December and early January, the county War Board will arrange for distributing to every farm home a copy of the preliminary farm-plan work sheet. This work sheet will be used to gather data on labor, credit, machinery, and fertilizer needs on each farm. This work sheet will also be the basis on which the county War Board will certify the status of the farm with respect to war production and thus for the operation of Selective Service deferments, provision of needed labor, machinery, and materials.

We get ready, too

Meanwhile the Department agencies represented on the War Boards will rush work on their various emergency programs—labor, transportation, equipment, supplies, and credit—so that agency representatives on War Boards can supply information on aid available to individual farmers. Thus, by the time of the final sign-up which follows Mobilization Day, farmers should be able to calculate definitely how much they can produce, if certain obstacles can be overcome, and USDA workers will be able to say definitely how much assistance they can provide. It will all be down in black and white. The county War Boards will hold sessions as often as necessary to consider the circumstances in each farmer's case, and to follow through both on the production program of each farm and the assistance program of each USDA agency concerned.

The Department's services to help farmers reach their 1943 goals may be summarized under the following headlines, under one or another of which you should be able to spot your own particular job.

AAA program for production

Even more than last year, the AAA program for the coming crop year means MORE war production. 1943 crop payments will be conditional on the degree to which each cooperating farm family carries out its individual farm plan, which will represent each farm's share of the national production goals.

Full production of war crops will be necessary to earn full AAA crop payments. For failure to produce at least 90 percent of farm war-crop goals (such as soybeans, flaxseed, long-staple cotton, dry edible beans, etc.) the crop allotment payments will be reduced at the rate of \$15.00 per acre of deficiency. There will be emphasis on full production of corn, cotton, peanut, tobacco, and wheat acreage allotments, with deductions five times the payment rate for failure to plant at least 90 percent of any such allotment. However, because the acreage allotments for cotton, tobacco, and wheat indicate the maximum production needed, and to plant more would interfere with meeting the goals for the special war crops, deductions will be made at a rate ten times the payment rate for exceeding allotments for these three crops.

Practice (conservation) payments will be made as in former years, with emphasis on those farming practices which increase war crop yields.

Price supports

Under the Steagall amendment (as amended by the Act of October 2, 1942) the AMA will maintain the prices for many of the farm products needed to win the war at levels remunerative to the farmer until June 30, 1944 (September 30, 1944, in the case of hogs). If the war should be over sooner, farmers are protected against a disastrous drop in prices. Other price supports are administered by the CCC loans, which maintain feed prices at levels which encourage heavy feeding and increased livestock production. Hemp will be grown under contract to the CCC.

Farm labor program

The farm labor program of the Department, which in turn is part of the larger manpower program directed by Mr. Paul McNutt, concerns not only the War Boards but agencies such as FSA, Extension, BAE, and the Office of Personnel—whose suggestion to try to help increase the efficiency of farm labor is now part of the Department's program. (See USDA, September 20.)

Transportation

Mr. Wickard on October 6 established a Farm Transportation Committee in every rural county. First big job, to help farm-truck operators fill out applications for ODT Certificates of War Necessity, was a tremendous task but bigger jobs probably lie ahead: to study rural truck traffic, develop conservation programs, and handle appeals for corrections of the mileage allowances granted in the ODT certificates. Secretary Wickard can now prepare schedules of priorities for the domestic movement of food.

Practical advice

This is where many of us come in. How-to-do-it information was never so urgently needed as now. Most of the 300,000 acres of hemp to be grown next year will be produced by farmers who have never grown it before. More livestock means more problems in disease control. More green hands on farms means more need than ever for useful short cuts of every kind.

Credit assistance

FCA and FSA are on the job in all divisions. A new FSA credit service for small farmers is the farm enlargement loan, under the Farm Tenant Act. The two agencies, under the Executive Order, are now part of the Food Production Administration.

Equipment and supplies

Through State and County USDA War Boards, county farm-rationing committees (for machinery) and farm-machinery programs—including repair, maintenance, and the training of new operators—the Department will do all it can to help farmers over a tight machinery situation. Other problems for the War Boards include fencing, welding rod, fertilizers, insecticides and fungicides, packaging supplies, and construction.

The President's order provides that after considering the recommendations of Secretary Wickard, the chairman of the WPB will allocate stated amounts of materials, supplies, and equipment needed for carrying out the food program; and WPB will then direct their use for such specific purposes as the Secretary may determine.

Forest-products goals

The Department is responsible also for helping to get the necessary lumber production. Estimated 1943 national need for lumber will be over 35 billion board feet, compared with

a production in 1942 of 34 billion. A much larger percentage this year must come from the small sawmills which, in turn, buy from farm woodlots. The big lumber operators are already running at capacity.

Democratic discipline

Farmers are disciplining themselves in the food production job through their own democratic machinery. The county War Board chairman, as county AAA chairman, has in each case been chosen by popular vote. The other USDA employees who make up the War Board membership operate under the existing agricultural programs pursuant to laws enacted by Congress. This is not dictatorship; this is democracy getting tough with itself. If American farm production next year is as precisely planned as the farm production of our enemies, there is yet a world of difference in the method used.

Down with the fence for national defense

At the time the Department sent its brass spittoons and other miscellany to war (see *USDA*, September 20) it was also ready to part with the ornamental metal in its Washington buildings. Now Federal policy allows us to proceed. Accordingly, Chief Thatcher of Plant and Operations is hoping that PBA may soon begin to strip the Department buildings of their surplus dignity. Nothing will be scrapped, in Washington or elsewhere, which ranks as a work of art, is required for protective purposes, or which cannot feasibly be replaced after the war. Outside these categories, however, this and other Government departments can find thousands of tons of ponderous metal trimmings. According to some, the buildings will look better without them.

Meanwhile, Acting Secretary Grover B. Hill has appointed seven area chairmen of equipment committees as follows: (1) William J. Gross, SCS, Upper Darby, Pa.; (2) John S. Ruggles, FSA, Raleigh, N.C.; (3) Harold K. Hill, AAA, Madison, Wis.; (4) Hollis R. Williams, SCS, Fort Worth, Tex.; (5) Leslie B. Owen, FSA, Denver; (6) Warren V. Benedict, BEPQ, Oakland, Calif.; and (7) Floyd V. Horton, FS, Portland, Oreg. Duties of area committees will include active prosecution of the salvage program, as

well as the development of area transportation programs, the release of idle equipment badly needed for more vital use, and the development of more stringent standards of equipment utilization in the interest of the total war effort.

Said Mr. Hill in Memo No. 996, Supplement 4, "The Department has a real job to do in the war effort which, among other things, calls for the release of equipment not only to the expanded war activities within the Department but also to the Government as a whole."

In other words, the very opposite of hoarding.

By the depot stove

By the pot-bellied stove in the depot at Somerset, Ky., the mountain men gathered early in the morning. One young fellow took off his shoes to dry them—he had swum his horse across the creek, he said, before sending him with a smack on the rump back to the farm. They were volunteers waiting for the train to take them off to war, as it had already taken thousands of their kin. But these older men or heads of families were going to fight the battle of the land. They were mobilized by the Department of Agriculture, as the first action to carry out Secretary Wickard's suggestion for moving farmers off poor land onto good land where they could produce.

In fact, before Mr. Wickard made his famous Peoria speech (see *USDA*, November 5) wiry Earl Mayhew, FSA's Kentucky State director, was finishing a scheme for putting underemployed manpower from unproductive mountain sides to work on dairy farms. About 76,000 farm families in 36 mountain counties in this one State sell an average of only \$61. worth of produce a year—not much Food for Freedom, not much of a living. Most had no other work. Mayhew's rehabilitation supervisors had ridden up creek beds in the Cumberlands to make loans for seed and livestock and better equipment. But many a cabin stood on land that was just too poor or too little.

The green light

The War Manpower Commission's directive of November 10 was the green light for Mayhew's plan. In the first experiment, 150 farmers from Kentucky mountain farms go to Ohio

State University's farm at Columbus for a 3-week training course in dairy work, under Floyd Delashmutt, Extension specialist; thence to permanent jobs which the U. S. Employment Service will find for them on dairy farms in nearby Ohio counties. Another 150 will come from a cut-over county in northern Wisconsin to work on dairy farms in that State. If this experiment succeeds—and it is starting off fine—it will be tried in other sections and soon a sizable migration may be under way. FSA provides transportation and meals, food and shelter, from the time the volunteers leave home until they are settled in their new jobs. Then FSA will move their families to join them. The farms they leave in Kentucky or Wisconsin will not go out of production. They will be added by friends and neighbors to their own too-small units.

There will be opportunity for many a family on too small a farm to increase its hours of work per year—and its wartime production.

Management column

SCS wins safety award

SCS has just won national distinction for safe driving. In the 11th annual national contest conducted by the National Safety Council, Region II of SCS (Southeastern States) won first place in the passenger-car fleet division for the entire eastern half of the United States. Richard B. Gossom, Jr., SCS regional safety engineer, received the National Fleet Safety Award on behalf of his staff at the National Safety Congress in Chicago, October 27-29.

Competing against 47 other major fleets, operated by commercial and public organizations, the SCS regional fleet of 276 cars traveled more than 3½ million miles with a total of 8 accidents during the contest year. This lowest average accident rate of .22 per 100,000 miles contrasts with 1.15 for the entire competing group.

Second and third places were won by the Florida Power and Light Company and the Socony-Vacuum Oil Company of Philadelphia. The SCS success is particularly noteworthy, since these cars lacked the central servicing and repair of many commercial competitors.

Department people

Women

News of women at work from four USDA agencies:

Extension home-demonstration agents in 31 States estimated that in 1942 twice as many women as last year are doing farm chores, such as feeding livestock and milking, and even planting, plowing, and harvesting in the fields. The Extension agents believe that three times as many women have operated tractors and other power machinery. Greatest increase in farm womanpower is in the Midwestern States. * * * A 4-H Club girl in Clark County, Wash., took over the management of an 80-acre farm, including 10 head of dairy cows, so her father could work in a shipyard. * * * A Nevada 4-H girl, only 12 years old, ran a buck rake in the hayfields all last summer, taking the place of a hired man.

The Forest Service has hired a 9-woman crew at a sawmill at Turkey Pond, near Concord, N. H., to find out whether womanpower can replace manpower in the strenuous work of a sawmill worker. The Turkey Pond mill still has more than 8,000,000 feet of lumber to saw from timber damaged by the 1938 hurricane and now needed in the war effort.

REA reports that when T. E. Hinton, superintendent of the La Grange, Tex., rural-electric co-op, joined the Navy, Mrs. Hinton took over his duties. Another REA co-op, in southeastern Tennessee, has a 20-year-old girl who tests meters.

The first full-time salaried woman PCA field representative has been appointed. She is Mrs. Marie Bennett, of Brownstown, Ill., a former school teacher, who has been acting NFLA secretary at Effingham, Ill., for the past five years. Mrs. Bennett will represent the Charleston PCA at Vandalia, Ill.

Farm worker's store

Permanent workers at the FSA migratory labor camp 6 miles from Walla Walla, Wash., were using gasoline and rubber to reach the nearest grocery in town. At the suggestion of Frank M. Regan, camp manager, 50 families contributed \$1 apiece, cleaned out a chicken house, stocked

it with canned peas, beans, corn, breakfast foods, milk, butter, and soda pop, and elected a woman storekeeper. The Walla Walla Farm Worker's Store is not only saving transportation, but in the second month of operation rang up \$1,290 worth of sales and returned a profit of \$107 to the co-op owners.

H. C. ALBIN is chief of the new Special Commodities Branch of AMA. This unit handles commodities such as fish and fish products, vitamins, coffee, tea, sugar, vinegar, spices, and condiments.

DAN A. WEST, recently appointed assistant director of OAWR, has charge of trade relations, cooperating with food handlers throughout the country.

DR. W. W. SKINNER, who has been with BACE for 38 years, is now chief, succeeding the late Dr. H. G. Knight. SINCE 4-H Club boys and girls mobilized last April into an army of food producers, they have raised 3,000,000 bushels of vegetables in victory gardens—enough to supply 150,000 men in the armed forces with vegetables for a year.

COUNTY AGENT Kenneth Brabant, Breckinridge County, Ky., reports a plan to have the farmers 33,000 miles of travel. Community meetings give them a chance to sign applications for ACP payments, order fertilizers, sign up for war bonds, and arrange for truck licenses, all at one time.



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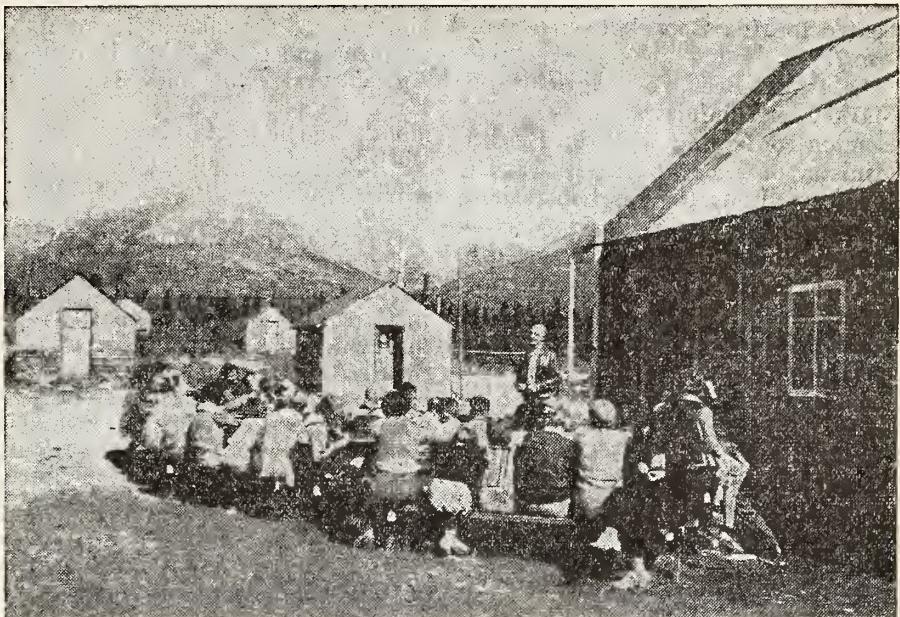
Around the world in 10 minutes

EXCEPT for its few airplanes which help in combating forest fires and insect pests, the Department of Agriculture operates no lightning transit service. But in 10 minutes, or less, you can read about these USDA people who are already at work on every continent helping build a better world.

We aren't waiting for the end of the war. As part of winning the war, scores of Department people in foreign countries, either on our pay roll or on those of other Government agencies, are doing a multitude of jobs—helping to provide essential materials for American requirements, helping other members of the United Nations increase their strength, saving shipping space by increasing strategic agricultural production, and helping people newly liberated by the armed forces.

North Africa

Some of the 7,500 Department workers now in uniform were (almost



REAR view of victory garden enthusiasts in Alaska talking it over with Director of Extension L. T. Oldroyd. These 4-H Club members grow fine gardens.



FRONT view of Puerto Rican 4-H Club members meeting with their Extension agent. Their ability in home food production is a life-and-death matter now.

certainly) with General Eisenhower's men in North Africa. Already, other Department men in civilian clothes are working close behind the lines. Arnold A. Garthoff, until lately assistant chief of the Purchase Branch of the Agricultural Marketing Administration, was delegated by the State Department with the American Economic Mission to North Africa. Mr. Garthoff at one time lived in North Africa and has a knowledge of the Arabic language as well as of the practical aspects of the food business.

England

Before Pearl Harbor, Under Secretary Paul Appleby and R. M. Evans, then Agricultural Adjustment Administrator, went to England to discuss lend-lease needs and methods with the British Ministries of Food and Agriculture.

On a second trip in March 1942, Mr. Appleby took with him Robert L. Oshins, who is still in London, working with W. Averell Harriman

on lend-lease activities. In addition, Oshins is keeping a watchful eye on goods arriving from America, to see that the right foods are coming in, properly packaged, and in good condition.

Home-demonstration clubs in America, directed by Extension Service agents, raised more than \$3,500 to buy sealers and canners for the English home-canning units. Queen Elizabeth, as a token of gratitude, canned a jar of plums which was presented to Mrs. Roosevelt on December 7.

Otie M. Reed, of Agricultural Marketing Administration, is now in London conferring with the British Ministry of Food on lend-lease. He is also studying the English rationing system, investigating food consumption by different income groups, and looking into livestock and dairy programs. Living conditions in London, he reports, are quite uncomfortable: "Cold—due to lack of fuel—and the blackout make it difficult to get around." Like Bob Oshins, he reports that the British Ministry of Food, working with an extremely small staff due to lack of manpower, is doing an admirable job.

Since Dr. C. K. Mingle flew to London, carrying the vaccine which enables the British to combat Bang's disease among cattle (see *USDA*, September 5) the Agricultural Research Administration has continued its assistance. Each additional ton of dairy products which England can produce saves shipping space and thereby shortens the war.

Richard W. Tuck, senior veterinarian of the Bureau of Animal Industry, is stationed in London to keep the bureau advised of the progress of animal-disease control. Lloyd V. Steere and Alton T. Murray, formerly of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, serve under the State Department as agricultural attaché and assistant attaché.

H. N. Luebcke and E. W. Gain, Soil Conservation Service drainage engineers of the Food Production Administration, are now in England helping to open new lands in that country to farm production.

China

Dr. W. C. Lowdermilk, Assistant Chief of Soil Conservation Service, has been loaned to China to help in opening new farm lands in the in-

terior and to help produce more food for the Chinese army and civilians. He will probably be there for the duration.

Dr. Theodore P. Dykstra, a pathologist of the Bureau of Plant Industry, ARA, is now in China with a number of American specialists, helping China modernize her agricultural methods and increase production.

Egypt

Ben H. Thibodeaux, formerly economist in the Division of Farm Management and Costs of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, is now in Egypt on a special mission. Several months ago he went to Bolivia to help work out farm and mineral programs, as well as the long-term progress of Bolivian agriculture.

Guy Hamilton, former Soil Conservation Service regional agronomist at Albuquerque, N. Mex., is now in Cairo, after some 9 months with the Twitchell Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia, which has helped to increase food production in numerous countries in the Middle East. J. Forrest Crawford will be agricultural adviser to our embassy at Cairo.

Iceland

E. Hjalmar Bjornsen, Olafur J. Olsen, and Kenneth N. Lewis, represent the Food Distribution Administration in Iceland. They are buying fish products for shipment to England, also lamb, and cod-liver oil to fortify foods and make up vitamin deficiencies.

And Latin America

Most of USDA's foreign work today is in Latin America. The work of scores of Department people in an amazing range of activities in Latin American countries will be told in the next issue.

Seeds of victory

ONE week an airplane leaves for Brazil with a cargo of lettuce and carrot seeds. Another plane takes off for India with a load of beet, carrot, and cauliflower seeds. To almost every one of the United Nations the American seed industry, which has been working quietly with the Department of Agriculture ever since the war started, is now able to ship seeds. Meanwhile, AMA's seed branch is building up a stockpile for current and future use.

Food for Freedom

Sugar and scrap

Normally, sugar from Colorado is sold west of Chicago, but by ruling of the War Production Board, beet sugar has been shipped as far as the Atlantic seaboard. Yet Logan County Agent Sherman Hoar writes that beet-sugar folks don't consider their job is limited to meeting the sugar emergency. At the same time that farmers of his county were harvesting a crop estimated at 222,750 tons, they managed to collect 1,350 tons of scrap iron in September and October—despite a labor shortage so acute that not only were North Dakota Indians, Mexicans, and Japanese evacuees imported, but the schools closed and businessmen went out to top beets in the field.

Children work for freedom

In Green County, Wis., 11-year-old Betty Eleanor Hoesly, a 4-H girl, learned to milk last year, now milks three cows. "Mother and father say it helps them." In the same county, Nancy Smiley, who is 12, last year milked cows, drove the horses on the hay loader, painted the porch of their home, and drove the tractor . . . Because there is nobody else to take it over, 15-year-old Eugene DeYoung of Rock County is keeping on with his milk route, reporting late to school by permission of his teachers. Eugene has just won a \$100 war bond as a national 4-H Club garden contest winner. Last year he carried on nine 4-H projects, handled most of the work on the family's 60-acre farm, helped the neighbors with cutting grain and threshing, and took on his morning milk route.

PAYING back a 40-year FSA loan in only 4 years with earnings from crops and livestock, Curtis Haraway, Limestone County, Ala., farmer, received the deed for his farm last month. Senator Bankhead, co-author of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, presented it at a public ceremony.

January tomatoes

From Hawaii, Martha L. Eder writes to the Extension Service Review that

a group of elderly Japanese women, who don't understand English, still manage to cooperate loyally in home-demonstration work. "They meet once a month with me and by using their eyes and hands they are able to learn what they wish regarding food preservation and home cooking." Among their specialties: papaya jam, roselle juice and jelly. In January, they are bottling tomato juice from their own gardens.

Real neighborhood leaders

AFTER Extension Agents George Felkel and Gladys Thompson organized and trained the neighborhood leaders for Wood County, Okla., these 124 men and 124 women volunteers visited 1,573 farms to speed the flow of scrap. One result: Since Pearl Harbor, the patriotic farm folk of Wood County have shipped more than 72 freight cars full of scrap, which amounts to about 432 pounds for every man, woman, and child in the county.

Not satisfied to gripe about the doctor shortage, 86 neighborhood leaders in Polk County, Mo., organized by County Agent R. W. Kallenbach helped to arrange 11 clinics where more than a quarter of all the folks in the county have already been immunized against typhoid, diphtheria, or smallpox. After helping to arrange for the clinics, leaders talked them up among their neighbors and made plans for transportation.

Just in case

In California the Extension Service has taken on for the State Defense Council the job of insuring a water supply for emergency use on farms, in case supplies should be cut off by sabotage or other enemy action. Warren R. Schoonover, soils specialist, J. B. Brown, irrigation specialist, local agents, and their cooperating organizations are busy with a State-wide survey to locate emergency water sources, preferably at least one per square mile, and with teaching farm families first-aid methods of purifying water in case that should be necessary. A leaflet, First-Aid Water Protection on the Farm During Emergencies, was prepared in co-operation with State health authorities and printed by the State Extension Service.

Management column

FIRST suggestions to come following Mr. Wickard's call for employees in the field and Washington to submit their ideas were from members of the Food Production Administration. Hugh W. Taylor of the Tobacco Branch proposed that a calendar be set up in the branch for the appointment and training of seasonal employees to avoid congestion and delay. The Department suggestion committee forwarded this idea to Mr. Jerry Klutz, whose column in the Washington Post offers a \$100 war bond as a monthly prize for the best idea from a Federal worker in Washington.

This one sees action

From the field, William F. Browne, of the Food Distribution Administration office in New York, made a suggestion which prompted Secretary Wickard to write him a commendatory letter. His idea was that certain kinds of reconditioned meat products be hard smoked for use in tropical climates. Action has already been taken on this one. Field employees not being eligible for Mr. Klutz' contest, and Uncle Sam not being in a position these days to offer cash prizes, Mr. Browne will find his satisfaction in having made a suggestion of the kind which genuinely helps to win the war.

How to have an inspiration

Each agency has made its arrangements for considering and acknowledging suggestions and forwarding the pick of the lot to Washington. Ask your supervisor.

How to have a bright idea: Try to think both about the specific duties which you and your office associates perform and about the importance of the work done by your division and agency in the war.

The more clearly you can see the relation between your daily work and the great events in this morning's newspaper, the more you will be inspired to come up with something worthwhile. Don't be discouraged if your idea seems pretty small. Saving 5 minutes may save a life. On the other hand, do not hesitate to speak up on matters of larger policy and management.

Packet libraries

If you are in the field and cannot personally visit one of the Department's regional libraries, you can, of course, ask to borrow any book or periodical by mail. Or you can ask the library to send a packet library for the use of the people in your office. In writing, state which kind of packet you want, for there are three kinds.

Type 1 is sent to a circuit of four field offices, each of which keeps it for one month and forwards it to the next. The library will make up the circuit and will include in the packet about 5 books and 25 pamphlets, complete with book ends, display card, a list of suggested further reading, and instructions. The books and pamphlets will be selected by the library to fit the work program in your area and the subject interest of the four offices on each circuit. About a fourth of the contents will concern broader aspects of our Department program, the world at war, and post-war planning.

Field offices, large and small, which have been placed on the schedule to receive Type 1 are enthusiastic about it. "Of great aid in our work and in broadening our ideas," wrote a USDA worker from way back yonder.

Type 2 packet libraries are like type 1 except that the contents are picked with a selected, specific group of workers in mind. For example, a collection on cooperatives was sent to FSA's area specialists in home management for recirculation to the district and county supervisors. The material was also read eagerly by FSA borrowers interested in purchasing and marketing associations, to make group purchases of seed and fertilizers.

Type 3 packets, which Harold Bal lou of the Office of Information helped to plan, are at present being used especially by the State and county War Boards and State AAA committees in the area served by the branch library at Upper Darby, Pa. These packets are small and are directed straight at current problems. If the system works out well, type 3 packet libraries may be used elsewhere.

If you are a supervisor and think your office would be helped by the loan of a packet library, write to your nearest USDA branch library and ask about the type of packet in which you are interested. (For a list of branches, see *USDA*, October 5, or write to Washington.)

School for dictators

REA conducts a school for dictators. A stenographer suggested that the usual order be reversed and a dictation class be held for the bosses. About 250 persons—including both bosses and stenographers—enrolled in a course in letter-writing.

Department people

AFTER 30 years in the Department, O. E. Baker leaves the Bureau of Agricultural Economics to head the Department of Geography of the new Institute of Geo-Economics and Politics at the University of Maryland. The purpose of the new institute is "to give expression to the belief that international cooperation through understanding and service will build for human improvement, security, and lasting peace when the war is ended."

From BAE to the Fijis

Mildred Osterhaut has been transferred from Australia to the Fiji Islands. Miss Osterhaut, formerly a stenographer in BAE, went overseas with the Welfare and Recreation Service of the Red Cross some time ago. Other former USDA employees with the same service are Stacia Poluchka, ex-FSA, Australian area; and Victoria Zachman, ex-Personnel, London.

IN THE Department patio at Washington, the USDA Red Cross unit report these figures for the period June 1940 (when the group was organized) to November 1942: knitted garments, 6,973; sewed garments, 7,114; total, 13,897.

Mary Rankin, BPI, takes top honors for number of garments made, with 137. Edith Cash, BPI, contributed 1,113 hours of work, the highest by far of anyone in the group.

Who is the champion knitter and sewer in the field?

ANTHONY J. SENES, special agent for AMA, doesn't look like a detective. He's short, swarthy, and past 50. But AMA says Senes has tracked down some 30 food-stamp racketeers. In one recent case in New York City, he posed as a WPA foreman, persuaded "cooperative" grocers to turn food stamps into cash, marked the stamps, and caught the grocers. Now they are in jail or facing trial.

W. O. FRASER, formerly in charge of livestock market news and grading, is now assistant chief of AMA livestock branch.

Campbell corps

T. M. CAMPBELL, first Negro county agent, who was honored last year by Secretary Wickard for 35 years in Extension work, has a family at war. Lt. T. M. Campbell, Jr., is in active service in the Army Medical Corps; Lt. W. A. Campbell received his wings with the Ninety-ninth Fighter Squadron. Abbie Noel, who taught home economics before the war, is an officers' candidate with the WAACS; Emily Virginia is in a nurses' training course; and Rose Elizabeth an instructor in first aid. Mrs. Campbell, Sr., is active in the Red Cross at Tuskegee.

H. H. WILLIAMSON, Texas Extension director, reports that farm families in the State are receiving weather information by telephone and other nonradio means because of the wartime restrictions on weather forecasts by radio. During and after a hurricane that hit the Texas coast, neighborhood leaders kept in contact with farm families when the usual lines of communication had been destroyed.

Skates

Ranger J. W. Trygg, of the Superior National Forests, Minnesota, sent two men on skates to fight a forest fire. During a normal fire season, boats are often used to transport fire crews in this country of many lakes. But this time the lakes and streams were frozen over with several inches of ice, and a trip by land meant several extra miles. The two men skated to the fire, a mile and a half away, in 15 minutes, put it out, and got back—



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down wind—in 8 minutes. Trygg says the post-season fire started by careless hunters' cigarettes.

USDA wives meet to mend

Five wives of USDA officials, at the suggestion of BHE Chief Stanley, started a weekly class for mending their husbands' worn clothes. Mrs. M. L. Wilson, wife of the Extension director, heads the group; the others are Mrs. Arthur Thatcher, Mrs. Earle Clapp, Mrs. Roger Marsden, and Mrs. Gregory Silvermaster. They have learned how to "retread" threadbare knees and seats of trousers, to make a crochet-hook patch for burned places, and so on.

BEULAH RODGERS, of AMA, prepares scripts of weekly reports on local food supplies and prices, a consumer service recently transferred from OPA to the USDA. These reports, issued to newspapers and radio stations in 24 of the largest food-consumption centers in the country, help housewives keep up with the changing Food-for-Freedom front.

THE Tennessee War Board is helping farmers who will be filling out income-tax blanks for the first time.

IN Kentucky the United States Employment Service and FSA moved 300 people from the bluegrass country to another section to cut corn and tobacco. The experiment was successful; 100 of the group remained and took jobs in the area.

Tushonka

THE Food Distribution Administration has bought 3 million pounds of Cvinaya Tushonka for the Red Army. Tushonka, as the Russian soldiers call it, is a special pork product made of boneless, lean meat, highly spiced. It can be eaten hot or cold right out of the can.

Raises and jobs

All employees in Washington and the field will get the overtime pay, amounting to 20% on the first \$2,900, voted by Congress last month. Beginning this month, all of us will also have 5% withheld from our paychecks as a Victory Tax, in addition to the regular income taxes.

With a 48-hour work week now in effect, the Department has been requested to make reductions in personnel. Director of Personnel T. Roy Reid hopes that this can be accomplished principally, if not entirely, by leaving unfilled numerous vacancies which now exist.

January 20, 1943

It is in Latin America that Agriculture has her largest expeditionary forces of the war—cooperating with the friendly governments and peoples of the 20 other free republics in this hemisphere, and with the Caribbean possessions of the United States.

In all our relations with foreign countries, the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations is in charge. On the recommendation of OFAR, the State Department appoints its agricultural representatives, and delegates other men, to work for the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, the Board of Economic Warfare, the National Resources Board, the Caribbean Commission, or other agencies. Although no longer on the Department payroll, these men bring USDA experience and background to the common task.

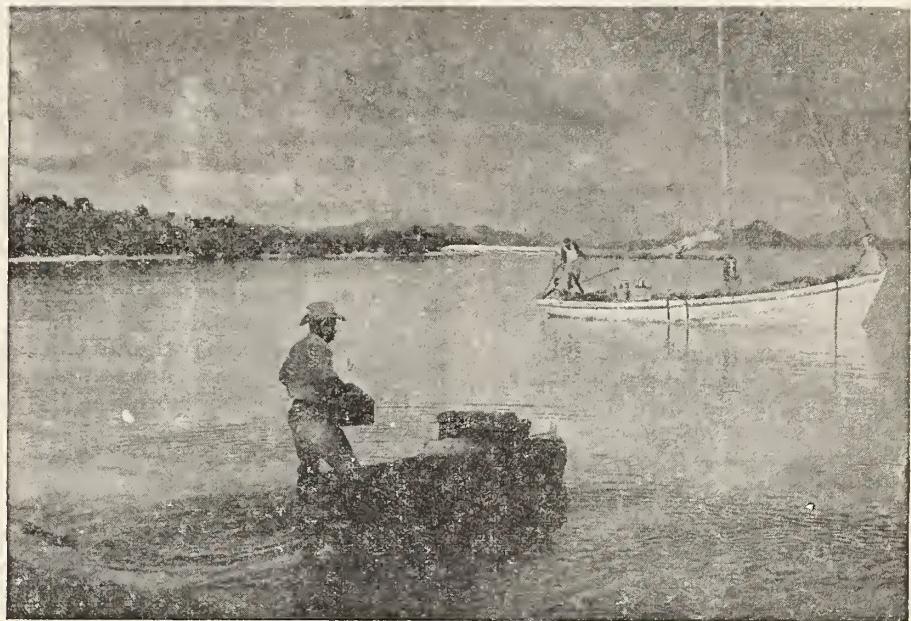
Below the border

Our own people below the Rio Grande are on a great variety of missions. They are there to help our own war effort by encouraging production of rubber and other scarce commodities. They are there also to help other countries solve problems familiar to our own—for instance, soil erosion and increased milk production.

A significant program of the USDA is the establishment of cooperative experiment stations in the other republics by OFAR. Stations are already operating in Peru, Ecuador, Nicaragua, and El Salvador.

Mexico

To complete the Forest Service appraisal of wild guayule in Mexico, C. K. Cooperrider of the Southwestern Station left Washington recently for the remote, almost inaccessible Quarto Cenges region. He will be joined by M. J. Culley, of the Forest Service station, C. E. Moore, supervisor of the Lincoln Forest, and C. R. Dwire, of the Albuquerque regional office. R. E. Stadelman, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, is cooperating in the nursery and field plantings of Hevea rubber. With him is associated Dr. W. J. Martin, who is conducting pathological investigations. Drs. Ralph M. Lingren and William S. Stewart,



FWA PHOTO

DESPITE subs and shipping shortages the Department since June has managed to send 130,000 tons of supplies to hungry Puerto Rico. Food goes by small boats like this from the Florida Keys to Habana, Cuba, by truck across to Santiago, by boat to Port au Prince, Haiti, by truck over to the Dominican coast, and by boat again to Puerto Rico. This is the old Hispanic Overland.

of the Bureau of Plant Industry, are working on Cryptostegia, or "India rubber vine." H. F. Gentry is working with them.

To arrange for the successful operations which have brought needed Mexican farm workers into the United States under agreement between the two Governments, last August Larry Hewes, FSA Region IX director, Maj. John O. Walker, Assistant Administrator, H. F. Brown, of the regional office at Amarillo, and Roland C. Lapp, district rural rehabilitation supervisor of Riverside, Calif., went to Mexico. With them they took Gilbert Sussman of the Solicitor's Office, and Walter Schreiber, of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Lester D. Mallory and Mervin G. Smith, formerly of OFAR, are agricultural attaché and assistant in Mexico City, under the State Department.

The Caribbean

Walter Van Bokklen and John C. Margo, of the Food Distribution Administration, are in Santiago de Cuba helping with the food-relief program for the Caribbean islands, some of which—especially Puerto Rico—are suffering severely from the shortage of shipping from the mainland. A fleet of old-time wooden cargo vessels, laden with urgently needed food-stuffs and other supplies, is plying the waters of the West Indies. In some waters they sail only in the daytime when the risk of a submarine attack is less. Paul G. Minneman is now agricultural attaché at Habana, Cuba. In two United States territories, Edward J. Bash is stationed in Puerto Rico and Clifton M. Keeler in the Virgin Islands.

As special consultant to the National Resources Planning Board, J. J. Haggerty, head of land utilization

in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, went to Puerto Rico in the spring of 1942 to help Federal and insular agencies organize an agricultural planning committee for the islands.

Now actively engaged in rubber production in Haiti are Thomas Fenell, manager, formerly of OFAR, and August Miller and C. Reed Hill, formerly with OFAR and the Soil Conservation Service. They are on the staff of the Société Haïtiano-Américaine de Développement Agricole, with headquarters at Port au Prince. Raymond Allison, M. K. Meines, Merrill Koetter, and John W. MacQueen, SCS field technicians, have gone down there to join them.

A. W. Bechtel, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, is in charge of the Department rubber-plant field station in Haiti. He is assisted by Dr. R. J. Seibert.

In the Dominican Republic, H. F. Allard, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, is cooperating with the authorities in establishing Hevea nurseries and field plantings.

Guatemala

Eugene Reichard, of the Forest Service's southern region, has been engaged in a survey of quinine supplies available in Guatemala, on loan to the Board of Economic Warfare.

J. Forrest O'Donnal, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, is connected with the Guatemala City government and establishes nurseries and plantations of Hevea rubber.

Costa Rica

Clyde B. Taylor of OFAR has been detailed to the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs for work on vegetable products. Charles L. Luedtke, agricultural attaché to the Central American republics, has recently been transferred from Panama to San José.

Dr. J. J. Grant, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, is in charge of the USDA rubber-plant field station in Costa Rica, assisted by Dr. M. H. Langford, associate pathologist, and Dr. E. P. Imle.

Honduras

Now with the Rubber Reserve Corporation, Ernest G. Holt, until recently chief of the biology division of the Soil Conservation Service, is in Tegucigalpa to negotiate with officials of Honduras for procuring rubber and getting it to the United States.

E. T. Stanwood, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, is in charge of the USDA rubber-plant field station, assisted by Linton A. Richardson.

Nicaragua

Robert L. Pendleton is director of the Experiment Station at Recreo, with Horticulturist Paul L. Guest, Pathologist Arthur G. Kevorkian, and Animal Husbandman S. H. Work on his staff.

Dale E. Farringer is junior economic analyst, stationed at Managua.

Brazil

In several countries, rural sociologists, agricultural economists, and agricultural analysts have been stationed where they can be of mutual benefit. Like the agricultural attachés, they are under the State Department but are usually men with USDA training. In Rio de Janeiro, Erwin P. Keeler is attaché, T. Lynn Smith, rural sociologist, and Ulrich H. Williams, junior analyst. Edgar R. Burkland is senior analyst at Para and Henry W. Spielman junior economist at São Paulo.

Joseph T. Elvove, Land Economics Division, area leader, for the Bureau of Agricultural Economics at Atlanta, will shortly join the State Department as agricultural counselor in the Bahia consular district, important for the production and export to the United States of strategic fibers, oil seeds, and rubber. From the University of Delaware, Dr. K. J. Kadow stopped off recently in Washington to learn a little Portuguese on his way to do extension work in horticulture in Brazil.

The Brazilian Government has recently requested the Extension Service for an experienced worker to teach United States agricultural extension methods in the universities. Rural-education systems modeled after the Extension Service have already been established in many countries. Youth clubs like the 4-H Clubs flourish in China, Africa, New Zealand, Colombia, Venezuela, British Guiana, Peru, Haiti, Jamaica, and Cuba.

At work at the rubber station are the following Bureau of Plant Industry men: L. A. Berry, Jr., working on the genetics of Hevea brasiliensis, Dr. Wallace E. Manis, pathological investigations, Drs. J. T. Baldwin and Thomas D. Mallory, and Dr. Karl D. Butler who is on loan to the Rubber Reserve Company. Dr. W. A. Archer, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, is working in Brazil on a survey of sources of rotenone.

Ecuador

E. R. Kinnear, formerly of the Soil Conservation Service Washington staff, has been appointed manager of the Ecuadorian Development Corporation with headquarters at Quito. The corporation is primarily to develop agriculture. A. G. Sandoval, formerly Soil Conservation Service employee at Albuquerque, N. Mex., is now with the El Oro Rehabilitation Project in Ecuador.

Lee Hines is director of the Experiment Station at Quevedo, with Lewis E. Long, a specialist in organization technique and extension, and Lewis H. McCann on his staff. Irving Rusinow, formerly photographer in the Division of Economic Information, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, last spring transferred to the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs and was sent on a 3-month trip to photograph Ecuador.

Argentina

Carl C. Taylor is in Argentina on a State Department mission as rural sociologist. Working with Agricultural Attaché Paul O. Nyhus and Junior Analyst Don Stoops, he is visiting all parts of the country and doing actual rural field work. One of the chief objectives of the mission is the exchange of Argentine-United States techniques in rural sociology and research. Dr. Taylor, head of Bureau of Agricultural Economics Division of Farm Population and Rural Welfare, will return to the USDA about April 1. Richard F. Lankenau, OFAR, is in Buenos Aires as economic analyst.

Peru

Rolland C. Lorenz, pathologist, Harold J. Brooks, animal husbandman, and William L. Wickline, extension specialist, are working at the Experiment Station at Tingo María, of which Benjamin J. Birdsall, soils specialist, is director.

Edward C. Higbee, OFAR, is in Peru studying rotenone, an insecticide urgently needed by farmers in the United States. The Peruvian Government recently translated our Department bulletin on 4-H Clubs into Spanish for the guidance of Peruvian youth leaders. Edward W. May is junior agricultural economist under the State Department, at Lima, Peru.

Colombia

The Forest Service is international these days, too. Donald Winters, William Silcock, and Leslie Hold-

ridge are now in Bogotá in connection with a survey of quinine supplies being made for the Board of Economic Warfare. Dr. H. V. Geib, of the Soil Conservation Service research staff at Washington, is leaving for Bogotá as agricultural adviser with our embassy.

Dr. Ross E. Moore, Assistant Director of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, who was appointed by Secretary Wickard as the United States representative on commissions to supervise cooperative experiment stations in several Latin-American republics, visited Colombia recently. H. J. Sorensen, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, is working on investigations at the new experiment station. Dr. F. R. Fosberg, also of BPI, is loaned to the Board of Economic Warfare for work on cinchona.

Uruguay

H. L. Parker and P. A. Berry, who were in France at a parasite-introduction laboratory at the outbreak of war, have been reassigned by the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine to Montevideo, where they are collecting parasites of the cotton boll-weevil, pink bollworm, white-fringed beetle, sugarcane borer, and vegetable weevil.

Venezuela

James H. Kempton, a botanist of the Bureau of Plant Industry, ARA, has been loaned to the State Department as agricultural adviser in Venezuela. The Extension Service lent a Puerto Rican home-demonstration agent, Miss Dolores Morales Diaz, to this republic to organize home-demonstration and 5-V Club work there.

Chile

In Santiago, James P. Wilson, of OFAR, is working in agricultural economics.

Roadside wood

R. A. SHEALS, BEPQ, working on gypsy and brown-tail moth control at Greenfield, Mass., has made a suggestion which might keep many hearths warm this winter. If oak and other trees favored for food by these insect pests could be cut in woodlands adjoining the highways, it would not only reduce the moth population, but improve the appearance and growing condition of the woodland. Wood suitable for burning could be cut into pole lengths

and carried to the roadside, to be cut into fireplace or stove lengths and hauled home in trucks or cars. It is suggested that the local moth superintendent, in New England regions where moth-control measures are in effect, will know the areas where this plan could be tried.

Mr. Sheals gave his suggestion to Harris A. Reynolds, secretary of the Massachusetts Forest and Park Association, who published it in the December issue of Forest and Park News.

Many National Forests this year are issuing free permits for cutting diseased, damaged, or dead-and-down timber for fuel wood, to be hauled at the cutter's expense.

This is war, too

WAR means a shortage of wool and flax. Recently Department employees have thought out ways to improve the handling of these two fibers and so stretch the supply.

James Coon, in the wool division of the Food Distribution Administration, used to be a sheepman himself. For years he and other growers have felt that present Government wool-grading standards are inadequate. The Government's samples for grading purposes were skimpy and of poor quality. Some of the terms used only confused wool growers and handlers. So Mr. Coon made up more generous samples of choice wool, packed them in a new and simpler box, and left out the confusing "spinning count" terms. Wool growers will be grateful; this little part of the war job will run faster.

Our linen imports, of course, are greatly cut. Yet much domestic flax is unsalable because of shives, or woody pieces, in the tow. At the Agricultural Experiment Station in Oregon, practically our only fiber-flax State, Agricultural Engineer W. M. Hurst, assisted by Howard F. Carnes and Leonard M. Klein of ARA's Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering, went to work on an experimental cleaner. They were aided by two Oregon State men, F. E. Price and G. R. Hyslop. The new cleaner, which cracks up the woody pieces and shakes them out, was tested for a long time at a farmers' cooperative mill at St. Paul, Oreg. The mill used the machine to clean 120 tons of the unsalable tow and the whole lot was then sold at \$260 a ton, bringing the farmer-members of the co-op an additional \$31,200.

George R. Boyd, chief of the bureau's division of mechanical processing, came back recently from an inspection trip and reported the good results. Oregon now has twelve flax mills instead of the four it had until recently. All have some of the improved machinery already designed at the laboratory. Soon the new flax cleaner, which is now in commercial production, will be added to the useful machines designed by USDA and State engineers.

Food Advisory Committee

Secretary Wickard has appointed a Food Advisory Committee to replace the Foods Requirements Committee. Members of the new committee are: Secretary Wickard, chairman; Maj. Gen. Edmund B. Gregory, War Department; Rear Admiral W. B. Young, Navy Department; Edward R. Stettinius, Lend-Lease Administration; Edwin W. Gaumnitz, Board of Economic Warfare; M. Lee Marshall, War Production Board; Abe Fortas, Interior Department; H. W. Parisius, Food Production Director, and Roy F. Hendrickson, Food Distribution Director, USDA. A representative of the State Department will be named later.

Huespedes

Other American republics also have their expeditionary forces here, in the trainees from many nations who are studying with the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, the Rural Electrification Administration, the Soil Conservation Service of the Food Production Administration, and the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering of the Agricultural Research Administration. These officials represent for the most part the ministries of agriculture or the universities of their countries.

Our guests, the bureaus in which they study, and their countries are: *Argentina*: Sres. Juan B. Pelavo, BAE, Oscar S. Mallea, Carlos C. Zárate, Enrique Duprat, BACE, Arturo Somoza, Casiano V. Quevedo, SCS, Federico del Ponte, REA. *Bolivia*: Sr. Jorge Alcázar, BAE. *Brasil*: Sres. José C. Vilela, REA, Silvino A. Batista, Paulo P. de Melo, SCS. *Chile*: Sres. Jorge D. Ahumada, BAE, Arturo Gantes, Carlos Palma, REA, Manuel T. Rodríguez, José O. Suárez, SCS. *Colombia*: Sres. Fernando Romero, Gabriel Rodríguez, REA.

Costa Rica: Sr. José Soto, REA.
Cuba: Sres. Casto Ferragut, BAE, Lucio R. García, SCS, Roberto Acosta, REA. *Dominican Republic:* Sr. Rafael D. Herrera, BAE.

Ecuador: Sres. Jaime R. Burbano, BAE, Gonzalo A. Moreno, Rodrigo G. Orellana, SCS, José Ordóñez, REA. *Guatemala:* Sres. Héctor M. Sierra, BAE, Jorge Arias, REA. *Haiti:* Messrs. Edouard H. Baker, BAE, Anthony Lespes, René Moravia, REA. *Honduras:* Sres. Roberto Arellano, BAE, Benjamín Hernández, Héctor Cerna, REA. *Méjico:* Sres. Ramón Fernández, BAE, Roberto Ladd, Vicente Ugalde, REA, Ricardo A. Leon, Javier F. García, Emilio Zamudio, Humberto Ortega, Gonzalo P. Andrade, SCS. *Nicaragua:* Sr. Joaquín A. Barquero, BAE.

The only woman trainee from Latin America is Srita. Ofelia Hooper of Panamá, BAE; from the same republic is Sr. José Rivas, REA. *Paraguay:* Sres. Francisco L. Ferrario, BAE, Alfredo G. Antonelli, SCS. *Perú:* Sres. Alejandro MacLean, BAE, Alfredo Bebin, Manuel Dapelo, REA. *El Salvador:* Sres. Francisco Aquino Jr., BAE, José S. Jáuregui, SCS. *Uruguay:* Sres. Roberto Graña, BAE, Mario Gil, REA. *Venezuela:* Sres. Héctor J. Santaella, BAE, José A. Rugeles, SCS.

Efficient farm help

EXPERIMENTS in training farm workers to use simpler and easier methods of doing their jobs—part of the Department's farm-labor program—are now getting under way at Purdue University in Indiana. At the instance of Secretary Wickard, the General Education Board of New York granted Purdue \$87,400 for "pilot studies" in simplifying the ordinary everyday work on the farm. If the studies show that a higher degree of efficiency can be obtained, there may be a far-reaching training program.

On January 1, intensive training began at Purdue for the staff who will make the pilot studies in various sections of the country on such common tasks as milking and other dairy work, harvesting of critically needed fruits and vegetables, grading, packing, etc.

Even before this, Dan Braum, of the Office of Personnel, and Ralph Shaw, USDA's Librarian, had reviewed the extensive literature on the subject of farm-work simplification

here and abroad. It was Mr. Braum's idea in the first place, and on behalf of it he testified before a Senate Military Affairs subcommittee on technical mobilization, along with Dr. Howard Tolley and Gregory Silvermaster, BAE, and Dr. H. B. Porter, of New York University.

When every man and woman is in the right job, the only way left is to do each job more efficiently, even if that means changing the way it's been for a thousand years.

Department people

CHARLES G. WOODBURY, of the National Canners Association, comes to the Department to assist Agricultural Research Administrator E. C. Auchter. Clifford M. Townsend, head of ACAA, is associate director of the Food Production Administration. Clarence W. Kitchen, who was with AMA, becomes assistant director of the Food Distribution Administration.

Dr. Phillips to China

Dr. Ralph W. Phillips leaves the Bureau of Animal Industry soon to join other Department people working in China. (See *USDA*, January 5.) As a representative of the State Department, he will act as consultant in animal breeding to the Chinese Republic. He will carry with him equipment for demonstrating techniques in artificial insemination, and will help the Chinese Department of Agriculture and Forestry in any way he can with their food-production problems.

And forest seeds, too

Several pounds of tree seed have been furnished by the Forest Service to the American Committee in Aid of Chinese Industrial Cooperatives, for experimental planting in northwest China. The seed included ponderosa pine and lodgepole pine from the Lolo, Nezperce, Lewis and Clark, and Cabinet National Forests in Idaho and Montana.

Roy F. HENDRICKSON, director of food distribution, plans to greatly strengthen and expand consumer work. He accepted the resignation of Donald E. Montgomery, Consum-

ers' Counsel, "with regret and with appreciation of the fact that you have made a substantial contribution to American consumers." Mary Taylor, chief of the consumers' service section and editor of the *Consumers' Guide*, also has resigned.

Ranger beat him to the draw

The outlaw career of Henry Kelly, wanted for draft evasion and dozens of burglaries, came to an end on December 15 when Ranger E. L. Shellenbarger, of the Inyo National Forest, caught up with him and beat him to the draw. Kelly for 10 months had been the "phantom outlaw" in the Owens Valley region of California.

What do you like—if any?

To check on the usefulness of this publication, 87 people in a Washington office reported what they thought of it. Of the total, 51 read it regularly, 32 occasionally, 4 never (even though it's free). Asked what sort of items they found most informative, 48 favored stories on Department war policy, 17 like the management column, and 49 were most interested in news of Department people.

But the main job of this news letter is in the field. The editor, tied to a Washington desk, hungers for more direct communication from the people who examine hog carcasses, grade cheese, check crop reports, persuade farmers to plant peanuts, watch for forest fires, fill out loan applications for illiterates, feed white rats, and convoy Mexican workers, as well as from the thousands who, like himself, only shuffle papers to help those who do things.



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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